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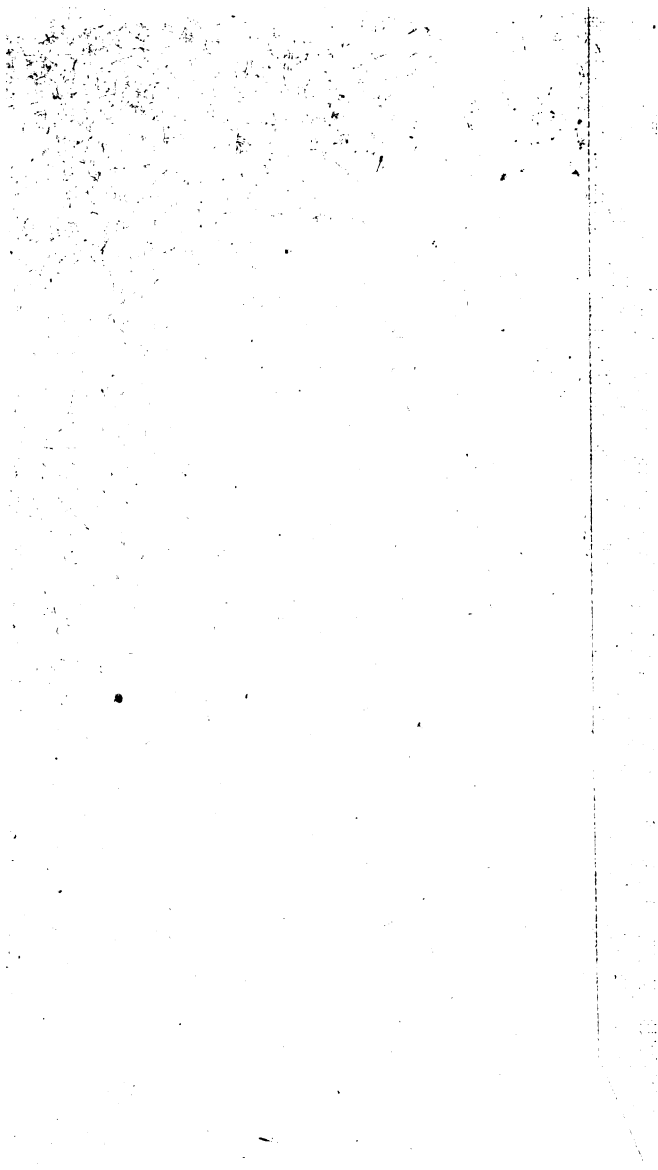

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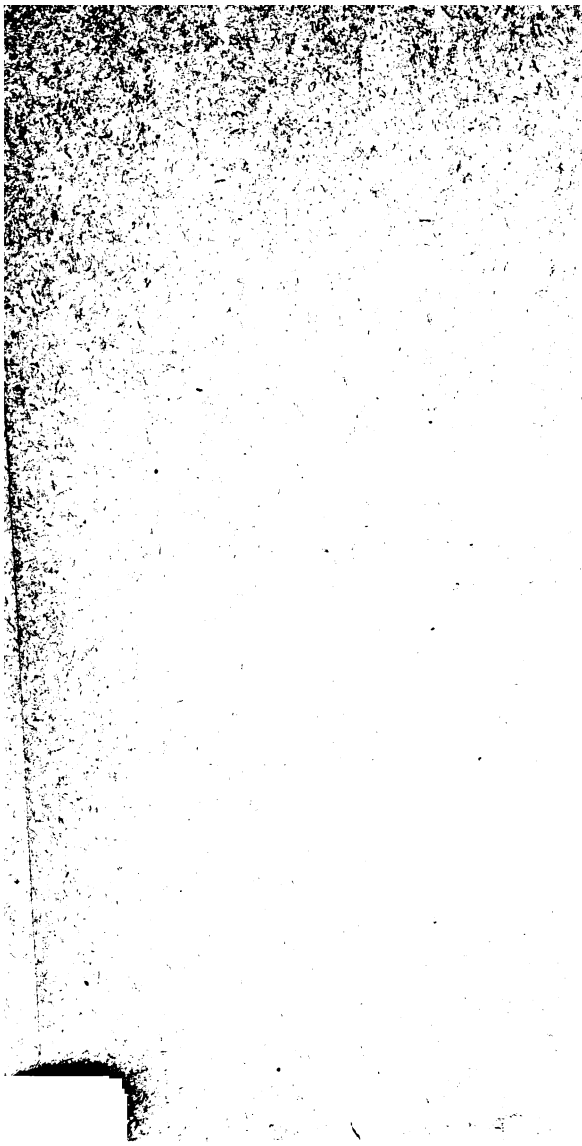

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THE

TRAVELS

AND

ADVENTURES

OF

William Bingfield, pseud. Eſq;

CONTAINING,

As ſurpriſing a Fluctuation of Circumſtances, both by Sea and Land, as ever befel one Man.

WITH

An accurate Account of the Shape, Nature, and Properties of that moſt furious, and amazing Animal, the DOG-BIRD.

Printed from his own MANUSCRIPT.

VOL. II.

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THE

THE

TRAVELS

OF

William Bingfield, Eſq;

CHAP. I.

Fly with Speed. Malack's *Tenderneſs. Author's Reflections on Greatneſs. Diſtreſs for Food. Relieved by* Malack. *Under exquiſite Torments. Tokens of his Love. Manner of their March.*

AS we were at firſt reſolved, not to want Time for the Diſpatch of the former Part of our Sentence; ſo being now entirely freſh, we had not only exceeded the Limits of four

Miles, but of three Times four, by Mo
ing. Here it was that we made the
Halt, at the Foot of an Hill, from
higher Parts of which iſſued a moſt
lightful Rill of Water, which falling
us, and thence ſeparating the graſſy
by its ſerpentine Meanders, as it pa
a-croſs a Plain beneath us, diſcharged
ſelf into a fine Stream at about Hal
Mile before us.

We were no ſooner ſat, than we lool
up to Heaven, for that Protection w
was denied us by Man; and ſubmit
ourſelves to the Diſpoſal of the g
Ruler of the Globe, ſeemed well c
tented to wait the Methods of his Pr
dence over us. We had ſcarce ended
Ejaculations, when *Ma'ick*, after the kin
Manner, making Enquiry how we c
produced the Proviſion he had (unkno
to us) collected for us, by opening
Pack, whoſe Contents were ſuch
Meats of ſeveral Sorts, as we had

Houſe at our Departure, and a Quantity as yet undreſs'd.

This good Creature obſerving our Concern on his Account, (for indeed we were both very uneaſy for the Hardſhips which his Tenderneſs for us muſt ſubject him to) begged us to take no Care for him, but to keep up our Spirits by feeding heartily; that for his Part, he could be content with very ſmall Allowance, and then, it would hold out the longer for us; but we being willing to be out-done by *Malack* in Generoſity, obliged him to take equal Shares with us, not only in Food, but Reſt; and finally, of every other Refreſhment: But as for the Burthen of the Baggage, he not only claimed, but inſiſted on that, as his own proper Employment.

Having received this comfortable Relief, we again called to Mind our Sentence, and that we had but five Days more to perform it in; but how far the Kingdom extended,

or by which Rout we ſhould attain to
neareſt Frontiers, we were wholly ignora
" Poor, ſimple, *Melchi*, ſaid I, Wh
" could'ſt thou imagine that I craved
" Weight of a Diadem? A Crown
" Thorns it proves to moſt Heads t
" bear it. The Proſpect may deli
" thee, but take Care that its Circle bru
" not thy Brain, and cruſhes thy Intelle
" to Confuſion. No, *Melchi*, reign
" what Splendor thou may'ſt, I ſho
" never either have envied, or diſtreſ
" thee. What is this Luſt of Pow
" that Mankind ſhould run ſuch viol
" Lengths for its Fruition? It is but
" diveſt ourſelves of all Humanity, a
" like the Lord of Beaſts, to ſubject
" Inferiors to our rapacious Paws, to I
" pine, Slaughter and Violence, at the
" centious Will of one ſole Being; not
" if himſelf was made with the Wo
" and other his Fellow-Creatures; but
" if himſelf had formed the Globe, a

"

" all its Furniture, for his own Emolu-
" ment."

When we had ſettled the Courſe of our future Rout, directly in the Line we had ſet out in, as the moſt probable Means of diſcharging *Kronomo* of us, we aroſe and moved on again, unwilling to ſubject ourſelves to the Pain of Death, by Diſobedience; ſo that we made only ſuch neceſſary Stops as Nature demanded, and thoſe of as ſhort Duration as poſſible, for the firſt eight or ten Days, ſome Time before which our Proviſions had failed us; and now we firſt (through meer Neceſſity) regretted the Loſs of our Birds, having ſeen various Kinds of Beaſts, which, by their Means, might have been ſerviceable to us.

We had entered on our ninth Day, having for the two laſt taſted little more than Water, and I own I began to be ſo very faint and ſickiſh, that I was not apprehen-

ſive of holding out to travel much longer; but my Wife having as yet ſhewn no Tokens of Uneaſineſs, I refrained from Complaint to her; nevertheleſs, near the Cloſe of the Evening, I hinted privately to *Malack*, that by the ſinking of my Strength and Spirits, I much queſtioned whether I ſhould be able to hold out for another Day.

The loving Fellow was under ſuch Anxiety for me, that I thought he would have gone wild; he ran to the Plains, the Buſhes, the Woods, not well knowing whither he went; but there was neither Fruit, nor ought elſe to adminiſter to my Wants; till having been abſent a full Hour, we began to be under no little Concern what was become of him; at length, as we were ſitting among the Trees, *Sally* (reclining her Head on my Breaſt) ſtarted up, "Who comes here, ſaid ſhe, is it "*Malack?*" I replied, that moſt certainly it was he; "But, what bears he upon his "Back?"

"Back?" ſaid I. We were both at a Stand for the Knowledge of it, till he caſt it off at ſome ſmall Diſtance from us, when we ſoon after learnt, that he had found a Neſt of Bees, which had lodged in an hollow Tree, where the Combs hung down (in the Manner he deſcribed them) like Flitches of Bacon in a Kiln to dry. He made no Queſtions, or in the leaſt complimented the Owners for Leave, before he made bold with one of theſe Heaps of Treaſure; but tearing it from its Fixture, made the beſt of his Way off with about half an Hundred Weight of it. He came not alone I'll aſſure you, for he had ſome Thouſands of Attendants about him, who kept up a prodigious Hue and Cry after their deſpoiled Property; nor were they tame Spectators only of the Outrage, but before he could diſburthen himſelf of it at our Feet, they had bliſtered his Face, Head, Hands, and Legs to that Degree, that I was afraid they would have mortified.

Sally and I, on View of the Hoſt that accompanied *Malack*, fled to ſome Diſtance, with no ſmall Precipitation, whilſt the poor Fellow ran to a Brook not far from us, and by jumping into it, not only diſcharged himſelf of his Beſiegers, but in great Meaſure allayed the Inflammation they had cauſed in his Fleſh. He ran his Head, as he told us afterwards, under ſome Weeds, where he could but juſt draw Breath ſufficient for preſerving Life, till by the Ceſſation of the Humming over his Head, he had Hopes that his Purſuers were returned Home, and then he ventured up to us.

Malack had as yet performed but Part of his Labours; for unleſs he could deliver to us ſome edible Parts of this Comb, we were never the better; and this he would venture for, notwithſtanding what we could ſay to the contrary, and ſoon returned with a Lump of about ten Pounds, which he

he had broken from the main Cake; for it being juſt about Moon-riſing, the Guard had all retired to their Quarters, ſave here and there a Straggler, which had been wounded by the Fall of the Comb from his Shoulders.

O the Variety of all Sorts of Elegancies that this delicious Morſel contained! There was neither Bird, Beaſt, or Fiſh, that might not be conceived to have contributed ſome Excellence for furniſhing out ſo agreeable a Goûſt. In ſhort, we were refreſhed, enlightened, and became new Creatures thereby; but the Craving of our hunger-preſt Stomachs, prevented the early Acknowledgments to *Malack*, which we ought firſt to have paid, as moſt due; tho' we failed not afterwards to recall the paſt Slip, by ſuch Teſtimonies, as were in no mean Degree pleaſing to him. We inquired how far he had brought it; which he deſcribed to us, when *Sally* replying,

that ſhe was amazed at his Endurance of ſo long a Paſſage, under the exquiſite Torments he muſt have ſuffered from the ſtinging Bees, who had not only formed an entire Cruſt over his whole Cloathing, but his Hands, Head, and Face too; for that not the leaſt Morſel of Skin was to be diſcovered on either.

O! replied *Malack* (for we talked all *Engliſh*, "All var well, var well. I no "ſting; neve die: I ſting; neve live: "Ah! dey ſting *Malack*, here, here, here, "(pointing all over him) neve live, var "well, var well." I don't always give you *Malack*'s Words, but Senſe; tho' ſome of his Speeches made ſuch Impreſſions on me, that I can never forget them.

I told *Malack*, that indeed, he had ſaved my Life; but added, that if he did not remove the Remainder of the Cake (by Morning) it would be again ſo covered with

with the Bees, that it would be uſeleſs to us; the honeſt Fellow took the Hint, and conveying it to a great Diſtance off, we all went to Reſt after our Repaſt.

We daily proceeded right forwards, unleſs when any promiſing Eminence appear'd obliquely to us, from whence we might command a Proſpect, and that frequently invited us up to its Summit; but we always kept our old Courſe in our Deſcent.

CHAP. II.

Proviſion ſpent. Lucky Acqueſt. Bold Action of Malack. *Provided with a Supply. Reflections on the Value of temporal Things.* Malack *ſtands Cook. Reflection on the Uneaſineſs Affluence creates.*

OUR Honey, which had for ſeveral Days yielded us a fine Supply, being now exhauſted, we were reduced to our former Indigence; nor could we conceive whereon to build our next Hopes of Succour. *Malack* had taken my Gun, 'tis true, tho' I had neither Powder or Shot to load it withall; but as *Malack*'s Load of Proviſion was ſpent, (tho' he would not part with his Kettle on any Account) I ſtill ſuffered him to carry the Gun, being unwilling to throw it away.

As

As for my own Part, and *Sally*'s, the ſore Travel and Uneaſineſs of the Ways, after ſo great a Length of Eaſe as we had enjoyed at *Kronomo*, had made Sticks very neceſſary to aſſiſt our Steps, and my own was almoſt a little Tree, having a prodigious Knob at the End of it; for in Caſe of any Attack upon us, by Man or Beaſt, it was not my Inclination to be void of a ſtout Defence.

Thus armed and accoutred as we were, penſively ſauntring one Day, and muſing upon ſome lucky Morſel to preſent itſelf for our Food; a large Beaſt, like a Wolf, met us, with a Fawn in his Mouth, which being too big for him to raiſe from the Ground, he was dragging it along by the Neck to his Den, or Place of Retreat. I feared leſt the Sight of ſo fierce a Creature ſhould have ſurprized *Sally*, and taking her by the Arm, I led her

her out of its Way; when *Malack* putting the Gun into my Hand, and at the ſame Time ſnatching my Stick from me, ran up to the Creature with all his Speed. The Beaſt ſtopped at his Approach, and growled horribly; but not willing to quit his Prey, he turned aſide from *Malack*, and was making off, when the ready Fellow bruſhed up behind him, and with one Blow broke his Back-bone at the Loins; then repeating his Stroke at his Head, he laid him dead at his Feet: He then ſtepped up to the Fawn, which recovering a little, was aiming at his Eſcape; but he caught hold of it by the Hind-Leg, and dragged it after him to us.

We commended *Malack*'s Conduct to the Skies, for the Intrepidity which he had ſhewn in the Action; but much more, for that he had brought us the pleaſing Morſel his Hand contained: But we had little Time for Compliments, till we

we had allayed thoſe Deſires which ſtill raged more fiercely, the nearer the Proſpect of their Gratification appeared to be drawing on; for without further Ceremony we ſkinned, and began to quarter it. *Malack*, then taking the Kettle in his Hand, (which I had often blamed him for encumbring himſelf with) and pointing to that, and then to the Fawn, "How you "boil dat, no Kettle?" ſaid he, and was running to fetch Water in it; but I ſtopt him, not caring to ſtay for the Ceremony of boiling, when a Piece broiled would be ſo much ſooner attainable; tho' I aſſured him, that when we were more at Leiſure than at preſent, I would ſatisfy him, that he had not brought his Kettle ſo far to no Purpoſe.

Having prepared our Fire, we were not ſo nice as ſome Cooks are, who muſt tarry till it is burnt to Embers, before they commence their Operations; for we cut off a Shoulder, which we placed over Smoak

Smoak and all, turning it very often by the Shank-bone, which ſerved as an Handle to it, till we gueſſed it to be enough, on the Outſide at leaſt, and cutting each of us a Slice, we laid on the Remainder, till we had picked the Bone: Then ſending *Malack* with his Kettle for Water, I fell to work with the other Shoulder, not doubting but we ſhould be able to manage that too.

While my laſt Broil was going forward, I obſerved *Sally* to be buſy with her Knife, in ſcraping the Blade-bone of the firſt dreſt Shoulder, till ſhe had reduced it to a perfect Whiteneſs. "My dear *Sally*, ſaid I, "pray what Uſe is that Bone deſigned "for when you have done with it?" "Why, my Dear, ſaid ſhe, ſmiling, till "we were bleſt with ſome Meat, it was to "very little Purpoſe to look out for Plates; "but now we have obtained ſome, tho' "it were but for a Meal or two, I am "thinking to enjoy myſelf as decently as

"I car

" I can over it, and am ſcraping me a " Trencher for that Purpoſe."

" *Sally*, ſaid I, it gives me an infinite " Satisfaction to obſerve you ſo pleaſantly " diſpoſed; and I was juſt then reflecting " what a ſmall Matter, what a little Va- " riation in Circumſtances diverſifies the " Fate of Mankind, from ſolemn Sadneſs " to Joy and Serenity." " A ſmall Mat- " ter do you call it, my Dear? replied " ſhe; why, this Knife in my Hand, may " (in ſome Senſe) be called a ſmall Thing, " indeed; but was it to cut the Rope a " Man was hanging by, and ſave his Life, " he would not (in that Caſe) eſteem it ſo " ſmall a Thing. We muſt not look at " the Bulk only, but Conſequences of " Things, if we eſtimate them to their " real Value. Had we lived in Plenty, as " we did at *Kronomo*, we might have " ſlightly called this Fawn a pretty little " Creature, and have thought no more of " it;

" it; but let me tell you, under the Cir-
" cumſtances that it is now preſent with
" us, it is beyond what the Crown of *Kro-*
" *nomo* would have been to us, without it."

I was very well pleaſed with *Sally*'s Reflection, but had not now Time to expatiate thereon; for *Malack* being arrived with the Water, and the other Shoulder fit for the Tooth, we juſt took a Swig of that, and fell to work again as earnſtly on this, as if it had been the firſt Morſel we had taſted; till having eaten and drank our Fill, we rolled up the Reſt of the Veniſon in its own Skin, and having tied it ſafely together in the Cloth *Malack* had brought with him, we renewed our March.

Intending to do great Honour to *Malack*, I the next Day appointed him Cook, for preparing the two Sides of the Fawn for our Dinners. This was an ample Cauſe of Joy to *Malack*, and with the utmoſt Sedulity he procured us, not only a good boiled

boiled Meal of Meat, but a Meſs of excellent Broth into the Bargain. It would have raiſed an immoderate Laughter in an indifferent Spectator, to have beheld us (who had lived like Princes at *Kronomo*, with Veſſels of all Sorts, and for every imaginable Uſe, about us) lying flat on our Bellies, bending the great Kettle forwards, and ſipping the Broth from the crocky Lips of it: But thoſe Things made no Impreſſion upon us now; ſave that they demonſtrated how idly, and inſignificantly People behave in Affluence, by creating to themſelves ten times that Difficulty and Diſquiet at every Incident in Life, nay, and at the very ſelf-ſame Accidents too, that others in a different Station embrace, with the ſublimeſt Guſt and Satisfaction.

CHAP.

CHAP III.

Malack *diſcovers three Men, and an Elephant. Preparations for receiving them. Expoſe themſelves to them. Their Aſſiſtance craved by a Lady, then Priſoner. Reſolve to free the Lady. Author knocks one Man down. Author diſabled by the Elephant.* Malack *diſables a* Turk. *Elephant flies with the Lady, Releaſes her. Compliments thereon.*

WE had now led this wandring Life for above three Months, without the leaſt viſible Proſpect of an End to it; when one Morning, *Malack*, who was always ſtirring and looking about him before *Sally* and I aroſe, came running to us, almoſt out of Breath. "O, neve, ſaid he, "tre Mans come, tre Mans come." We not being well awake, could not tell what he would be at; till pointing to the Place, we underſtood that three Men were coming,

ing, with a great Beaſt; for which having only his own Country Name, neither *Sally* nor I could make it out; but ſuppoſed, by his raiſing his Hand ſo high at naming the Beaſt, that it muſt have been ſome Camel, or Dromedary. However, ſomewhat was to be done, and ſpeedily too; for we muſt either appear, or fly; and the latter, after ſo much Solitude as we had paſſed through, for introducing ourſelves to the living World, ſeemed very irkſome to us.

I aſked *Malack* if the Men were armed; he told me, no, only he that led the Beaſt had a long Staff in his Hand, and the others Sticks, for walking. I then enquired what Colour they were of? He ſaid between himſelf and me, like the People of *Kronomo*. Surely, thinks I, we are upon the Coaſt of *Barbary*, or *India*; for we can never be all this while be on an Iſland; we muſt have arrived at the Sea, in

in ſo long a direct Walk as we have taken, had it not been on the Continent.

I came then to a Reſolution of ſhewing myſelf to them, telling *Sally*, that if they had ever ſeen a Gun, and were apprized of its Uſe, they having none with them, and not knowing but mine might be charged, would be cautious how they ventured to oppoſe us; and then, it was more than probable, that they might be civilized People, of a peaceable Diſpoſition, and ready to do us a good Turn; from whom we might not only gain Directions to ſome populous City, but be informed of the Names and Manners of the Inhabitants; upon all which Accounts, we would expoſe ourſelves. I took the Gun myſelf, ordering *Malack* to bear my Stick, and to keep himſelf within Reach of me, in Caſe I ſhould want it; and I deſired *Sally* to rouze up her Courage, and ſtand by us, as valiant (at leaſt in Appearance) as either of us.

Thus

Thus having regulated my ſmall Forces, and gained Information of the Tendancy of their March, I choſe to fall in with them rather by Side advance, on a ſudden, than to meet them directly, which might give them more Time for Preparation.

We waited till they appeared at the Extremity of a Thicket of Buſhes, behind which we had ſheltered ourſelves; then bolting out upon them at once, there appeared to be a Perſon heading an Elephant, with a cloſe Litter on its Back, and two more Men walking, one on each Side the Beaſt.

I gave a ſmart Hem before they had eſpied us, on which (being very near us) they all ſtarted, but ſtill kept on their Way, bowing to us, and lifting their Hands to their Heads; when obſerving them to be (at leaſt) as ſurpriſed at the Sight of us, as we were at that of them, I advanced to the fore-

foremoſt, or him that led the Beaſt, making a Sign to him to ſtop; this he firſt did, and then the others. I demanded who they were? what Countrymen? and the Name of the Country we were then in? But as they underſtood me not, ſo they alſo ſaid ſomewhat, the Meaning whereof I comprehended as little; when *Sally*, ſtepping up to my Side, anſwered one of them, with which he ſeemed much pleaſed; then taking a narrow Survey of her, he bid her aſk me, whether I brought her not this Way, to diſpoſe of her to the Grand Seignior? *Sally* ſmiled at the Demand, putting it to me in *Engliſh*. I ſtarted; "What! Who is it, ſaid I, that pre-"ſumes to aſk the Queſtion?" But ſhe turning to me, deſired me to refrain from Paſſion, and let her alone with the Strangers. She then made my firſt Enquiries known to him who underſtood her, for ſhe ſoon perceived that neither of the others did. He told her, that he and his Companions were travelling to the Borders of the

the *Arabian Gulph*, in their Way to the *Egyptian Sea*, with a Lady to be tranſported thence to *Conſtantinople*, for the Uſe of the Seraglio; and that we then were juſt entering the Country of the *Abyſſines*.

During our Diſcourſe, the Curtain of the Litter drew open, when the moſt beautiful Face appeared, that I ever in my Life beheld, not excepting my *Sally*, who till that Moment, had borne the Prize from the whole Race of Womankind.

One of the Keepers, in a Rage, ordered her to keep back, and draw the Curtain, which ſhe not readily conſenting to, he was about to ſtrike her with the Stick in his Hand, when I interpoſed my Gun; till he inſiſting upon it, that ſhe ſhould forthwith incloſe herſelf, I bad *Sally* declare to him, that if he ſpoke another Word, or even advanced his Stick againſt her, I would immediately ſhoot him thro' the Head. The Fellow believing me

obſtinate, and dreading the Conſequences of my Wrath, obeyed; and the Lady drew forward, to the Side of the Litter.

She ſpoke to us in three or four different Languages, before ſhe was in the leaſt underſtood; when having heard me ſpeak *Engliſh*, and aiming at that herſelf, tho' ſhe was miſerably imperfect in it, both *Sally* and I could comprehend her Meaning.

She firſt declared herſelf a Chriſtian, that ſhe was of *French* Extract, but came laſt from *Ireland*, where ſhe had been about ſix Months. That in her Paſſage to *Japan*, ſhe was taken into *Madagaſcar*, where, after a Stay of twelve Months, ſhe was compelled to turn *Turk*, and was now under Conduct of thoſe Wretches, conveying to the Grand Signior's Seraglio; begging us, by all that was good, to take Pity on a poor, undone Creature, and if poſſible,

poſſible, to reſcue her from the Hands of her Keepers.

Her Story rouſed my Compaſſion for her to too great a Degree to deſert her. I reflected with myſelf, upon the Diſhonour it would ever ſtain me with, ſhould I ſuffer a Chriſtian (for ſuch I muſt ſtill eſteem her in Heart, whatever Profeſſion ſhe had been compelled to make) to be proſtituted to the Luſt of an Infidel, when it might be (but poſſibly) in my Power to relieve her; but here, I took the Caſe to be abſolutely ſo, thoſe Fellows having no Arms with them. However, not to act raſhly, I put the Queſtion to them by *Sally*, how far we were from the neareſt Town? And what was the Name of it? He replied, *Mantra*, which was at leaſt three Days Journey from us.

They were now for moving again; but the poor Lady rending my Heart all the while with her Outcries, from the Back of

the Beaſt, for Pity and Compaſſion to her, I ſtood no longer to conſider; for I ſoon determined to procure her Freedom at my Hazard; but then being in a ſtrange Kingdom, where poſſibly her Keepers were better known than we were; I imagined, that upon their Eſcape, they would raiſe the Country upon us, and we might loſe our Lives by the Bargain, or perhaps reduce our Conditions to that of Slavery. Theſe Motives, tho' not urged without ſeeming Reaſon, were nevertheleſs, not of Force enough to prevail with me, for a Retraction of my Purpoſe of delivering the Lady; ſo that I commanded them to ſet the confined Lady at Liberty.

They demanded whether I was well in my Wits? I replied, that I was, and would ſoon make theirs deſert them, if they immediately obeyed me not. What! ſaid he, whom *Sally* converſed with forme, ſhall we, who have travelled ſo far for his Highneſs's Pleaſure, and at his Command, return

return empty-handed? No, we will defend her with our Lives, and ſecure our Maſter's Property.

I was in Hopes that the elevating my Gun would have procured ſome Terms of Accomodation; but the Conductor of the Elephant making at me with his long Pole, and being conſcious of the Imbecility of my Gun, I ſeized my great Club, and avoiding the intended Stroke of the Pole, at one Blow on the Head, I laid my Aſſailant at my Feet, who never ſtirred more. The other two, by this Time, having engaged *Malack* and *Sally*, I was terribly afraid for her; but *Malack* having diſarmed his Man, I was up with *Sally*, before any Miſchief had happened to her. He that was diſarmed then ran to the Elephant, and ordered the Lady to deliver him the Fire-Arms out; which *Sally* hearing, begged her to forbear, for that we were ſtruggling for her Deliverance only.

Sally, then turning to me, and acquainting me, that the *Turks* had Fire-Arms in the Litter, and that, if they ſhould fall into their Hands, we were undone; I ſprang up to the Litter, entreating the Lady to give them to me; but the *Turk* threatening and ſtorming, and the Lady ſtooping for them, thinks I, if by any Means he ſhould ſeize them upon her Delivery, Death muſt be the unavoidable Conſequence: To prevent therefore, further Miſchief to myſelf, I fairly knocked him down with my Club, and then received a Brace of Piſtols from the Lady unmoleſted.

I had ſcarce taken hold of them, as I was reaching with my extended Arm for that Purpoſe, when the Elephant obſerving that I was not one of his old Companions, gave me ſuch a Blow croſs my Loins with his Trunk, that I verily thought he had broken my Back; for I was ſcarce able to ſupport myſelf upright, or to draw my

my Breath, I was in ſuch Miſery; but with much ado, I made a tolerable Retreat, and ſat me down, being able to move no further.

Mallock had, by this Time, beaten the third *Turk* almoſt to a Jelly; for his Stick not being of Bulk proper for knocking down, he had ſo bruiſed him from Head to Foot, that the poor Creature cried out for Mercy. The firſt *Turk* that I had demoliſhed, never wagged more; but the other, being only ſtunned, was recovering, and about to riſe; when conſidering what an eaſy Conqueſt he would now have of me, unable ſo much as to raiſe myſelf on my Feet; and nothing doubting, but that he would make proper Advantage of my Condition, I levelled one of the Piſtols, and ſhot him dead upon the Spot.

Now it was that my Concern for the Lady over-balanced that for myſelf; for

tho' we had nothing more to fear from the *Turks*, having only one diſabled Man of them living; yet the Report of the Piſtol having agitated the Elephant, he threw about his Snout, and to my thinking, was collecting himſelf into ſuch Rage, as I preſumed, if not dangerous to us, would prove ſo to the Lady on his Back, ſhould he run looſe amongſt the Trees and Buſhes.

I ordered *Malack*, to take the living *Turk* with him to the Elephant, and make him releaſe its Rider; but neither Threats, or Perſuaſions, would prevail on him to follow, he was ſo dogged; till *Malack* having reſumed his Cudgel Argument till he was weary, and the Beaſt beginning to trot off, himſelf went upon the Expedition, or it had coſt the Lady her Life.

Malack, running very ſwift, ſoon came up with the Creature, and by a peculiar Spring, with the Help of his Hands, ſeated

ſeated himſelf aſtride on its Buttocks; this enraged the Beaſt ſo, that he roared and ſprang forward ſtill in great Fury, to which Temper and Motion the Lady's Cries contributed not a little: But *Malack*, turning himſelf with his Face to the Tail of the Animal, took hold on the Lady's Hands over his Head, then begging her to fear nothing, but to ſtep over into his Lap (he quieting her Objections, by the Signs he made her of perfect Safety by ſo doing.) She did, as ſhe was directed; then ſinking her down, till he could graſp her in his Arms, he holding her there, ſlid off upon his Legs, preſerving both himſelf and her upright, without the leaſt Hurt, notwithſtanding the Beaſt kept on all the while, at his top Speed.

I was heartily glad to ſee them both ſafe landed; for while ſhe was ſtanding in *Malack*'s Lap, ſo near the Elephant's Tail, I expected no leſs, than that both their

Necks would have been broken the Moment.

As I was wholly unable to ſtir m I ſent *Sally* to congratulate the Lady her narrow Eſcape; who alſo, at Return paid me an infinite Numb Compliments; urging, that ſhe was D to me, beyond what would ever be i Power to diſcharge. I replied, that joiced in Proportion to the Satisfact had afforded her, and for that it ch to be my good Fortune to be inſtru tal to it; but that I could have wiſh had been accompliſhed without Bl tho' as it was of the *Turk*'s own fe in abridging the Liberty of a Chriſti doubted not, but that it would ſtill for the beſt; and then diſcloſed to h Fears, in Caſe they had eſcaped with leſt by raiſing the Country, they ſ have cauſed us to be apprehended.

CH

CHAP. IV.

No Proviſion. La Bruce *hints at ſome on the Elephant.* Malack *recovers it. Let the Elephant looſe. Purſue their Travels. Come to an Hermit's Cell. His Obſtinacy. Lodge in a Thicket. Have Company. Travel with them. See a Flight, and Purſuit on the Deſert. Loſe their Guides. Overtaken by them and others. One carries off* Sally. *Author purſues. Recovers her.*

HAVING all ſet ſome Time to compoſe ourſelves, after our ſeveral Fatigues; *Sally* told the Lady, ſhe hoped ſhe had lately eaten, for that otherwiſe we had brought her to very ſcanty Commons; inſomuch that ſhe was afraid, ſhe would rather have been obliged to us for not interpoſing in her Eſcape, than to have introduced her to ſo ſtarved a Company as

wo

we were; for added ſhe, we have ta nothing ſince Yeſterday Morning.

The Lady (who I ſhall henceforv mention by her proper Name, which told us was *La Bruce)* replied, ſhe ſorry, that ſhe had not been ſooner prized of our Wants; for that there above an hundred Weight of Corn in Litter, with Sweet-meats of ſeveral S beſides many ſuch Utenſils as were n ſary for Travellers. We all appeared ribly dejected for the Loſs of ſo nece an Acquiſition; till *Malack* offered Service to follow the Elephant, and r ver the Cargoe, if he had but a Dag or a long Knife. *La Bruce* replied, there were both in the Litter; for the *Turks* had depoſited them there, to be incommoded in their Walk.

Malack, without more Words, dre himſelf in the late Conductor's Clo and bearing his long Pole in his H

went off as quick as Lightening, in Purſuit of the Elephant; who by this Time, was far enough out of our Sight; but not returning in leſs than three Hours, we were all under great Concern for ſo neceſſary an Hand, leſt by ſome Accident, the Elephant ſhould have deſtroyed him; for as yet we knew not how he intended to behave with the Beaſt, if he found him.

At length, *Malack* appeared, leading the Creature by his Halter, as tame as a Puppy. We were all ſurprized at the ſudden Alteration of the Elephant's Temper, till *Malack* aſſured us, that juſt as he expected, the Beaſt upon Sight of him in the *Turk*'s Garb, came up to him, and fawned upon him, with all the Submiſſion imaginable; when he judged it would be the beſt Way, to make him the Bearer of his own Burthen, and that now, if we pleaſed, we might either make further Uſe of him, or turn him looſe again, as we ſhould judge moſt proper.

He

He was now very glad, he ſaid, that the poor Beaſt had proved ſo gentle; for otherwiſe he muſt have been obliged to have killed him, before he could have poſſeſſed his Loading. We then deſiring to know how he would have gone about it? He replied, that having leaped up as he did before, he would (with a Simitar which he would have taken from the Litter) have ſtabbed him in ſeveral Parts, till he had fallen with him.

We unloaded the Beaſt, which Operation *Malack* performed, by mounting his Back, and diſburthening him of whatever lay looſe; then ungirting the Litter, we laſtly let that gently down; and then, conſidering whether he might be of any further Uſe to us, we came to a Reſolution of diſmiſſing him; for that the Trouble of keeping him would over-balance the Commodity we could expect from his Service; ſo *Malack* lead him to the Woods, and unhaltering him, left him there.

Before

Before *Malack*'s Return, the third *Turk* was dead too, which gave us the leſs Concern, as juſtly imagining, that in the long Run, we ſhould be no Loſers by it.

There grew in a ſhort Time, ſuch a ſtrict Intimacy and Friendſhip between Mrs. *La Bruce* and *Sally*, that they became ſworn Sifters; for *Sally* told me, that having one of her own Sex to converſe with, and bear a Portion of her Difficulties, as well as Delights, was an high Gratification to her.

So ſoon as I was able to walk again after my Bruiſe, we formed a Debate, whether we ſhould endeavour to find our Way to the Gulph the *Turks* talked of, or whether we ſhould return by the Way *La Bruce* had travelled; for that, ſhe aſſured us, would lead us to the Sea-Coaſt. We could propoſe no Benefit at all to ourſelves by an inland Walk; but then, ſhe not being able to point out to us which Way ſhe came,

came, being moſtly ſhut up behind her Curtains, we might indeed bewilder ourſelves in the Search, but had little Proſpect of gaining our End by it.

Towards the Cloſe of the next Evening, *La Bruce* and *Sally* walking foremoſt, whilſt *Malack* and I were in deep Conference about our Lodging, and Suppers; they both ran back to us; ſays *Sally*, yonder is a little Houſe; and a little one it was indeed; when they had ſhewn it me. I took my Stick in my Hand, and ordering *Malack* to ſtay with the Women, I went up to it; being aſſured from its Bulk that it contained not many Inhabitants.

I rapped with my Stick at a little Doorway, when a low Voice from within, anſwered me; but it being in a Way that I underſtood not, (tho' I judged it to be ſomewhat of the Language that *Malack* and *Sally* uſed to converſe in) I called them up to me, and by this Time, an old worn-

out

out *Turk* had opened the Door a-jar. *Sally* told him we were Strangers, and desired to be let in for Shelter; but he no sooner beheld her, than he clapped to the Door in a Rage, and would hold no further Parley. *Malack* told him, we would do him no Hurt; but he replied, that he had kept himself from Women these twenty Years, and would not now be tempted.

We promised that they should retire, and only desired him to give us some Directions how to travel towards the Sea, and some Description of the Country we were in; but all was to no Purpose; he told us, that he knew no more the Way to the Sea, than we did; for that having committed Sin on the Spot he stood on, he was resolved never more to stir from it, or have any Converse with that Part of Mankind, called Woman, again; and this was the most we could obtain from him.

I ordered

I ordered *Malack* to declare, that i opened not his Door again, and ga the beſt Derections in his Power, I w fire the Hut over his Head, and burn in it. But he was ſo far from being mayed at my Threat, that as long died not by his own Hands, he ſaid ſhould welcome Death come whe would. I, judging that the Brute's C nacy proceeded from his Ignorance, him; or believe his Superſtition w have prevailed over him, till he had on the Spot.

We took our Lodging not above a from the Hut, in a Thicket of very Buſhes, and Underwood, commo enough for the Purpoſe; but had ſ laid ourſelves down, before we heard man Voices very diſtinctly. I could wiſhed it had been Day-light, that I m have diſtinguiſhed the Perſons; it wa ſome few Minutes only, before they up with us, and entering, to my Thin

by the ruſtling Noiſe they made, into the very Thicket to us.

Not being ſenſible how many of them there might be, or who, or from whence they were, we ſuſpected that we had been dogged into the Thicket, and that we were now paſt all Hope of eſcaping. We had Thoughts, at firſt, of lying ſtill at all Adventures; but unwilling to be ſurprized off my Guard, I ſtarted up juſt before the Men had reached us, then ordering *Malack* to call out to them, they demanded who we were? We anſwering, Strangers, who had choſen to ſpend the Night there; they replied, that they were come for the ſame Purpoſe, and would lie by us.

I had no great Reliſh for ſuch Company; but as a Refuſal might be dangerous, we ſubmitted to it, and they laid themſelves next to me and *Malack*. My Mind was too full of this Event, to admit the leaſt Reſt to my Eye-lids; I ran over in my

my Fancy infinite Inconveniencies wl might be attendant on this new for Acquaintance, nor could I reſolve an my Scruples into our Advantage; till h ing the Strangers ſnoar heartily, I bega hope that their Deſigns were not chievous.

We remained in this Situation till of Day, when I, who had as yet ha Reſt, aroſe, as did *Malack*, and ſoon the two Women; but we were ſcarc our Legs, before our ſtirring had awak the Strangers, who were to my Think two as ill-looking Fellows, as I had ſeen, with each a Sort of Simitar by Side.

We enquired of them the neareſt to the Sea, which they told us was thro the Kingdom of *Magadoxa* to the R *Cumara*. They were travelling that W they ſaid, themſelves, and would acc

I

pany us; but added that we were at a vaſt Diſtance from the Sea.

We were juſt at the Foot of a Range of Mountains, which covered a large Tract of the Country, and not judging it prudent to avoid their Offer, we agreed to with them to the next Town, not imagining it to have been many Days Journey off; but we had not jogged on together above an Hour, over a moſt barren Soil, before we diſcovered to our Left, near twenty Men upon Camels, trotting with prodigious Speed, from behind one of the Mountains, and preſently ſeveral more, ſome on Horſeback, ſome on Foot, following in like Haſte. Upon this Sight, our Guides almoſt flew to come up with them.

What could we imagine to be the Meaning of this Flight, and Purſuit, but that a Number of Villains, were in Chace of ſome honeſt Travellers? And by our Guides aſſociating with the former Claſs, we could har-

harbour but a very mean Opinion of them. We ſtill kept on, judging that they would not think it worth their while to follow us, from whom they could expect but little Plunder, and towards Night, having paſſed the Foot of the firſt Mountain, as we were entering upon the ſecond, we imagined ourſelves very happy in the Loſs of our Companions; but the next Morning our Hopes deſerted us; for we were then entertained with the Proſpect of the ſame Set of Men, whom we had beheld at a Diſtance the Day before, with our two Guides in their Company.

It was a moſt afflicting Sight to me, to perceive ourſelves pent up between almoſt ſurrounding Mountains, without Help, weaponleſs, and defenceleſs of ourſelves, two Women to preſerve (if poſſible) from Violence, and one of them dearer to me than my very Soul; and yet, that I muſt become a tame Spectator of that Brutality, which I doubted not would ſucceed,

ſucceed, without Probability of Redreſs, appeared to my tortured Imagination in the moſt afflicting Attitude; for what could myſelf and *Malack* attempt againſt ſuch an Herd of Ruffians?

Whilſt theſe Cogitations were working up my Mind to Diſtraction, they had gained the March of us, and the Horſemen ſurrounding us, demanded an Halt; when three of them alighting, without taking the leaſt Notice of me and *Malack*, they firſt ſeized *Sally*, and by main Strength, in ſpite of her Cries and Strugglings, clapped her before one of the Horſemen, who immediately giving the Horſe the Spur, galloped off with her, while the diſmounted Men ran to *La Bruce*, to ſerve her in the ſame Manner: But the Lamentations of my deareſt *Sally*, laſhing my Heart till my Blood boiled up to a Fury, would permit me no longer to ſtand motionleſs.

The

The Dread of loſing *Sally* inſpiring me with Reſolution, I leaped upon one of the ſpare Horſes, and purſued her, with the utmoſt Expedition that the poor Beaſt could make, before the diſmounted Men had ſecured *La Bruce*. I had my great Club in my Hand, and gained Ground every Moment of the Raviſher; when his Comrades, who were by this Time following us, obſerving that he whom I purſued was turned into a Paſs to his Right, between two pretty high Hills, they ſtruck round the Baſe of the Hill, nearer to themſelves, in Expectation that he would only have rode round the Foot of it, and have joined them; but we were ſcarce ſcreened from their Notice by the interpoſing Hill, before I came up along Side of the Raviſher, and by a violent Swing of my Club, brought him from his Horſe to the Earth; I calling out at the ſame Time to *Sally* to keep her Seat, and follow me.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

They ride off. Enter a Wood, and a River. Aſcend another Wood. Are preſerved. Eſcape. Live on Berries. Fear Robbers. Are relieved by the Death of an Elephant. Arrive at a Plantation.

NO ſooner was the Fellow dropt, than turning our Horſes ſhort, we preſently gained the Plain again, and, with our beſt Speed, made for a Wood, which we ſaw to our Right, at a vaſt Diſtance; for either that was to be attained, or we muſt expect to be murdered, if we fell into the Raviſhers Hands again; nor was there the leaſt Buſh or Tree to ſcreen us, till we ſhould arrive there, but we ſtayed not to conſider; for having fixed our Point, we reſolved at any Rate to attain it.

We never once looked behind us till we were under Shelter; but then the Proſpect,

to our inexpreſſible Joy, appeared all clear in the Rear-wards. Happy it was for us, that the Baſe of the Hill covered ſo much Ground, as to delay their Paſſage round it, till we were ſomewhat obſcured by the Trees: But as the whole Country we had paſſed, and for many Miles every Way, ſave to the Wood and Hills, was a dead Flat; they miſſing us upon the Plain, muſt be neceſſarily drawn after us to the Wood, as the only Aſſylum we could have flown to; ſo that we ſtill preſſed on ſtreight forwards, through the Wood, ſaying little to each other, ſave what I judged neceſſary to keep *Sally*'s Courage from flagging, till having gained the Height of the Ground, upon looking behind us, we perceived ourſelves purſued both by Horſe and Foot; but they were at a very great Diſtance.

Both our Beaſts and ſelves were out of Breath, and fain we would have recruited it; but having no Time to loſe, we reſolved

ſolved to ride on, ſo far as the Beaſts would carry us; for we could but quit them at the laſt Extremity, and we both looked upon Death as the certain Conſequence of being overtaken.

We had now croſſed the Wood, when at a ſmall Diſtance before us, we ſaw a very broad Stream, which run through the graſſy Plain we were entering upon; beyond which, there roſe another large Wood. The River looked very wide at the Diſtance we then were from it, but much more ſo, upon our nearer Approach to it, being near a Quarter of a Mile over.

Sally, perceiving me to ride full towards it: My Dear, ſaid ſhe, Whither are you preſſing? Don't you perceive that River ſtops us? *Sally*, replied I, it is for thee, and my own Life that we fly, nor can ought but croſſing that River ſave us both. Our Enemies, can we but attain the op-

poſite Wood before they get Sight of us, will be diſcouraged in their Attempt, and ſtill imagining us to be lurking in the Wood they muſt paſs, by ſearching for us ineffectually there, may drop the Purſuit; nay, let the worſt come, ſhould they even ſee us croſs this vaſt Water, few will be ſo hardy as to follow us; ſo that on all Accounts, the Paſſage of this River or nothing muſt protect us; therefore follow me in, fear nothing, believe but that you ſhall compaſs it, and I'll be reſponſible for your Safety.

We eaſed the Beaſts for about an hundred Yards before we entered the Water, then without the leaſt Demur I breaking Way firſt, (for by good Fortune, it proved a ſloping Shore) *Sally* followed me, and we were near half over, before the Cattle began to ſwim; but then plunging and by Degrees loſing their Feet-Hold, *Sally* could no longer forbear crying out. I ſeeming no Ways to pity, but rather chearing

chearing her, Come on, my Dear, ſaid I, ſit but faſt, give the Horſe his Rein, and you'll be as ſafe as on dry Land. She followed my Advice, but with Fear and Trembling, till in due Time the Creatures feeling Ground again, we landed ſafe on the oppoſite Shore.

We then ſprung forward for the Wood, and paſſing it gently, now *Sally*, ſaid I, what think you of croſſing Rivers? My Dear, replied ſhe, I had juſt now no other Expectation than of drowning; but when the poor Beaſt began to ſwim, it was pleaſanter than any of his other Movements. Come, my Dear, ſaid I, here's nobody in Sight yet, we'll gain the Hill and defy them.

Having paſſed that Wood alſo, we aſcended a diſtant Hill, from whence we could command the further Side of the River; and there (having placed our Horſes out of Sight) we lay down amongſt the

Shrubs, to obſerve what would follow. We ſaw the Robbers arrive in great Numbers to the Plain, by the River; where ſome rode one Way, ſome another; but not a Soul of them came near the Water-Edge, or even ſhewed any Tokens of their Suſpicion of our having taken the River; whereupon, I told *Sally*, that in my Opinion, we were free from our Band of Foes, and might purſue ſuch Courſes as we ſhould ſee propereſt; but my Advice was, for us to travel directly from the River.

We not obſerving *La Bruce* amongſt the Horſemen, or any one like *Malack* amongſt the Foot, who arrived near an Hour after, did not doubt, but that they were carried quite off, and ſincerely regretted the Loſs of them both; but having made all the Remarks we could till the Robbers had quitted the Plain, we deſcended the Hill into an hideous Deſert, on the further Side of it.

We

We were now in ſuch a Country as we had never before beheld; for I much queſtion, whether we could ſee leſs than thirty Miles in one unobſtructed View, every Way round us, ſave that to the Hill we had deſcended, which abounded in Buſhes, and Shrubs near the Bottom, with ſome few tall Trees intermixed; all other Proſpects being of one continued bare, barren Sand. This melancholy Scene confined our Walks to a very narrow Compaſs, and obliged us to keep cloſe under Shelter of the Hill, not only for the immediate Benefit of ourſelves, but for the little Suſtenance which our Cattle could find there.

There were a reaſonable Plenty of a ſmall Berry, like Strawberries, about the Skirts of the Cover, and here and there ſmall Springs of Water, which deſcending the Hill, loſt themſelves in the ſandy Plain below. Theſe were a prodigious Refreſhment to us ſometimes, after ſeveral Days parching Drought, which we had no

other Means of allaying, but by the ſmall Fruits; but no Comfort which we could meet with could compenſate for the Loſs of our dear Friends, *Malack* and *La Bruce*.

We travelled for many Days upon the Skirt of the Hill, till we were ſo ſpent and waſted, for Want of ſomething more ſubſtantial than thoſe Watery Berries, which only waſhed our Stomachs, without ſuſtaining our Strength, that we could both with Pleaſure have ſubmitted to Fate, in calling us from Life, could we but have fallen together; but the Dread of either ſurviving the other, in our preſent unhappy Situation, made the Lives of both the more regarded by us.

I had determined, after numberleſs Wailings of our Calamity, that the very next Day I would kill one of the Horſes for our Support, which was indeed what I ſhould moſt certainly have before done, but

but that we could not promiſe ourſelves more than two Days proviſion, from ſo large and noble a Creature; for the Heat of the Country would by no Means ſuffer it to be kept edible any longer.

Sunk and dejected through theſe Anxieties, Life was ſuch a Burthen, as deprived us even of the Pleaſure we had hitherto taken in each other; when turning our Eyes toward the vaſt Wild, we ſaw ſuch a prodigious Cloud of Duſt ariſe, as we were unable to account for, there being then a perfect Calm; but preſently we thought we obſerved ſomewhat in Motion, tho' we could not diſcover what, and ſtill which Way ever the Motion paſſed, the Duſt followed it: And this ſtill drawing nearer, and nearer to us, we could by no Means detain our Eyes from it.

Sally, ſaid I, what will become of us now? Here are more Robbers in Purſuit of their Prey: Let us retire into the Wood

Wood with the Horſes; for ſhould they diſcover us, we ſhall but have avoided one Gang, to fall into the Hands of another, and then all our Labour and the Hazard we have ran for our Preſervations, have been a vain Toil. Now what diſtreſſes me moſt is, leſt we ſhould by ſome Means be ſeparated for ever; for you might plainly diſcover, that the firſt Set of Villains, had they but carried you off ſafe, mattered not a Ruſh what had become of me.

Poor *Sally*, terrified with theſe Apprehenſions, begged me not to tarry a Moment, but to retire. We did ſo, but led by Curioſity, when we were half Way up the Hill, turning about to reconnoitre the Enemy, who by this Time were advanced within Diſtance of our Diſcovery; we plainly perceived, that all our frightful Ideas had been raiſed by ſome Quarrel between two large Beaſts only; but they ſtirring up ſuch a Duſt and Smother, we could but now and then procure a Glance

of

of them through it: At length, their Courſe tending toward the Hill we were upon; we, at a proper Diſtance, beheld one of them to be an Elephant, but could not conceive what the other ſhould be, it being much ſhort of the Elephant in Stature, and to our thinking like a wild Boar, but a very large one.

We kept our Stations to view this running Fight, till Fortune conducting them pretty near to the Wood we were in, the Fray became very ſharp between them; for the Elephant, panting violently, made a Stand there, not able to proceed farther. We obſerved, that the little Beaſt, which as I ſaid, reſembled a Boar, (but yet had ſo many Notes of Diſtinction from that Animal, which we had never beheld in any Beaſt before, that we were not able to fix any other Denomination upon it, than that of the little Creature) puſhed only at the Elephant's Belly with its Snout, whilſt itſelf received ſuch Strokes from the others Trunk

Trunk on its Broad-ſide, as made our Hill to eccho; and theſe were ſo often repeated, that we were amazed at the little Beaſt's Ability, to ſtand againſt them. After following this Sport for ſome Time, the ponderous Elephant uttering a horrid Groan, dropped; when to behold the little ſwaggering Animal ſtrut round the vanquiſhed Corps, toſs about his Trunk, ſmelling, and exulting over him, it was very ſurpriſing; till at length, having triumphed ſo long, and ſcornfully as he pleaſed, he returned by the Way that he came (I ſuppoſe) to his old Layer.

Our Eyes followed him, till he totally diminiſhed out of our Sight; we uttered our grateful Acknowledgments to that Providence which had directed ſo unlooked for a Benevolence to us poor hunger-preſſed Creatures: And then deſcending from the Wood to the Plain, we ſet upon cooking up ſome of the deceaſed Beaſt's Fleſh for our Dinner. We firſt

cut

:ut ſeveral thin Slices from the moſt leſhy Parts, which we ſpread upon his 3ody, to be made Uſe of as we ſhould vant them; intending when we had done, :o carry off with us as much as might keep ſweet for another Day; which was the utmoſt Benefit we could hope to receive from ſo noble a Creature; but how were we revived, when in leſs than three Hours, which we ſtaid there, upon handling one of the firſt cut Slices, we found it as hard as a Shoe's Sole; the Juices being perfectly dried up by the Extremity of the Sun's Heat upon it; and this accidental Diſcovery put us upon preparing ſo much more as ſufficed us for many ſucceeding Days, and till we arrived at a Sort of Plantation, there being a plain Crop of ſome Sort of Grain, incloſed with Hedges regularly made, in which were growing ſeveral Olive and other Trees.

Welcome as this Sight could not chuſe but prove to us, we were not wholly void of

of our Fears and Scruples; as whether the Owners were a civilized People, or only ſome of the Fraternity of the Spoilers, that frequented the Waſts. We made bold however with ſome of the Fruits, which grew there; but upon inſpecting narrowly around us, could diſcover no Traces of any Buildings, or Habitations, to which the Incloſure might belong; tho' we had no Doubt, but there muſt be ſome ſuch, at no very great Diſtance; but the Part of the Country we were then in, being very much covered to our Right, we could take no diſtant Proſpect that Way; and it being now towards Night, we turned a little out of our Way for Lodging, in a ſmall Growth of Ever-greens, which ſtood very thick, intending to make further Search the next Day.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Meet an Army of the King of Melinde. Sally *taken upon the King's Elephant. Author enrolled among his Soldiers.* Sally *refuses Compliance. Author sentenced to be beheaded. Interview of the Author and* Sally. *Brought forth to Execution. Respited. King charmed with their Constancy. Afraid to enquire after* Sally.

WE were passing through the Woody Country, in a long, but narrow Glade, which as far as we could well see before us, seemed to terminate in the open Deserts again; when suddenly, just as we entered upon the Wast, such an Host of People appeared to our Right, as amazed us beyond Measure; for we met at the Point of the Wood, within fifty Paces of each other.

We

We had ſo fairly expoſed ourſelve
them, that it was in vain to fly f
them, their whole Van being on Hc
back, gallantly mounted. We turned
Angle of the Wood, as they came al
by the Side of us, and had paſſed m
of their Ranks, before any of them t
Notice of us. We obſerved, that
Horſe, which were very numerous, ı
ſucceeded by a vaſt Train of Foot,
beyond what we could perceive an Enc
and that at a conſiderable Diſtance f
the Van, and pretty near to the En
the Horſemen, there ſeemed to be ſ
Carriage, or elevated Stage moving
ward, with Parties of Horſe on each
of it; but ſtill no one opening their l
to us, we began to take more Cour
and were in Hopes of no bad Iſſue f
this ſurpriſing Appearance; but rather
we might gain ſome Intelligence benef
to our Purpoſe, from the Rear of
Foot, of whom we had purpoſed to m
Enquiries.

At length, the Carriage (as we took it for) being arrived juſt over againſt us, we obſerved it to ſtop, when the whole Body made an Halt; and then we perceived it to be only a large Litter, borne upon a tall Elephant, wherein, under a moſt magnificent Canopy, there ſat a very majeſtick Perſonage, who diſpatched one of the Horſemen to us, for Knowledge of who we were, and whither travelling. *Sally* anſwered, Strangers, making towards the Sea.

We not then being fifty Paces from the Elephant, were ordered forward to him on its Back, (whom we preſently diſcovered to be their King) who having himſelf examined us, and finding *Sally* to be a Woman, ordered us both to be ſecured; demanding whether we were *Mahometans*, or Chriſtians. We would have replied any Thing for the Sake of Liberty; but happened upon the very wrong, by declaring ourſelves to be Chriſtians.

The

The King, then ordered *Sally* up to him on the Elephant, and ſent me to be enrolled amongſt his Soldiery; but we were wholly ignorant of their Deſtination. I had Arms delivered to me, and was cloathed in the Uniform of his own Troops, whilſt *Sally* travelled with him in his Litter for four Days; and each Night repoſed in his own Tent, he ſcarce ever ſuffering her to ſtir out of his Sight; but at length, perceiving that he could not bring her by fair Means to his Lure, ſhe having told him, that I was her Huſband; he, in Hopes of ſubduing her Stubbornneſs by my Sufferings, ordered my Head to be ſtruck off, in Preſence of his whole Army.

This Sentence came very ſurpriſingly to my Notice on the fifth Day, when *Sally* almoſt wild with Diſtreſs at the Publication of it, (for the Tyrant had aſſured her that unleſs ſhe forthwith complied with his Requeſt, my Head ſhould pay the Penalty

of her Obſtinacy) drowned in Tears, was by his Permiſſion ſuffered to have a final Converſation with me before my Execution; in Hopes, no Doubt, that for preſerving my own Life, I ſhould have urged her to Submiſſion; but after the Tenderneſs of our firſt Interview, and a Sort of laſt Farewel, ſhe dried up her Tears, and recovering herſelf:

"My Dear, ſaid *Sally*, we have often "in our prior Diſtreſſes, ſought for Death; "as what would miniſter the ſureſt and "ſpeedieſt Relief to us; ſo that we could "but both fall together: Now therefore "is the joyful Day arrived, which will "preſent us with the Concluſion of our "Misfortunes." What! replied I, has the Brute included you in the ſame Condemnation? No, anſwered ſhe, neither in Words or Intention; but can you, my Love, imagine, that I will ſurvive you? Will not Death, think you, paſs as eaſily upon me as yourſelf? Then ſurely,

I ſhall

I ſhall not be deſtitute of Means or Opportunity of accompliſhing it. No, my Dear, aſſure yourſelf, that the Day which finds you lifeleſs, ſhall releaſe me from the Miſery of grieving for you. I ſhall fall contented, when you are no more; and but for heightening your Diſtreſs, would myſelf lead you the Way to Eternity. Bear you but up againſt the Stroke, my Heart is fixed, and I even long to be with you, in thoſe Regions, where we may enjoy an Infinity of Happineſs together, which we have ſcarce taſted here.

When I reflected on her Conſtancy and Tenderneſs, I was charmed with it; neither could I complain of the deſperate Reſolution ſhe had taken, or uſe the leaſt Argument to divert her Purpoſe; well knowing, that her Life would prove but a Diſhonour to her, when her Chaſtity would be no more; for that the Tyrant would long make Uſe of Intreaties alone was little to be expected, and to be obliged to ſubmit

ſubmit to his Paſſion, would be ſuch a Blemiſh upon her, as ſhe could no Ways ſurvive.

I beheld her with an Heart overflowing with Love, and tho' it was Death to me (but in Imagination) to conſider her, as piercing her vital Blood for my Sake; yet, I ſo far maſtered my Reluctance to her Deſtruction, as to applaud her Conduct, aſſuring her, that myſelf would receive the Stroke with ſuch Conſtancy, as ſhould leave no Stain adhering to my Character.

We were then joining in our final Embrace, when as if envious at our Tranſports, the Tyrant, who had been an Eye-witneſs to the Paſſages between us, at ſome Diſtance, ſent Orders for our Separation, and ſhe was immediately raviſhed from my Arms; but to what Deſtiny I was uncertain, nor could we add a Word more, or exhibit any further Marks of Tenderneſs; but

but by our Eyes, which ſtole ſuch Looks, as our Perſecutors could not well reſtrain, till we were paſt Sight of each other.

I was then conducted to the Place of Execution, where my Fellow-Soldiers were drawn up in a large Circle, to aſſiſt at the Ceremony of my Decapitation. I was conducted to a low Stool in the Center, where it was required of me, to give my Conſent, to part with my Wife to *Abluffcar*, that being the King's Name. I replied, that I never would, but by Compulſion, and required the Executioner to do his Office; aſſuring the Spectators, that I was ſatisfied, their Maſter ſuffered more by a Death violently and unjuſtly induced on me, than I myſelf would; for that I ſhould be ſenſible of ſeverer Torture from a Compliance with his Commands, than it was in his Power to inflict for my Diſobedience.

Notice

Notice of my Behaviour was, contrary to my Expectation, carried to the King; who, upon Return of the Messenger (instead of the Death I even longed for, it being brought to such a Crisis) dispatched an Order for the Suspension of my Execution.

This unsought-for Act of Benevolence threw me into the extremest Rage imaginable, lest my Wife, being ignorant of what had happened, should have practised upon her own Life, before Notice of his Majesty's Clemency to me should have reached her Ears; so that casting off all Dread of my abject Condition, I humbly begged that I might be conducted to the King, to acknowledge the Grace designed me, and that I might offer a few Words to his Ear.

My Spirit laboured so with the bare Thought of the Loss of my Wife, whilst I should remain in Being; and again with the

the Brutal Sufferings ſhe would be expoſed to, whilſt herſelf continued in Life; that divided between both, I was almoſt beſides myſelf, when the Meſſenger, who had made my Requeſt known to the King, brought me Orders to attend his Majeſty.

I fell upon my Knees ſo ſoon as I entered to his Preſence, and teſtified my Gratitude for his Bounty to me; but aſſured him, that his Views in my Preſervation would be fruſtrated, unleſs an immediate Stop was put to the Deſtruction premeditated by my Wife, of her own Perſon; which I aſſured him, ſhould it take place, muſt neceſſitate me to purſue her Example; for that I could not ſurvive her.

The King having for ſome Time weighed my Speech, and obſerved my Reſolution: "Chriſtian, ſaid he, your Wife, by "happy Turn of Providence, is ſafe; "nor were you deceived in the Proſpect "of her not ſurviving you; for hearing the

Shout which my extended Mercy to occaſioned, and taking that as a Signal our Exit, ſhe ſnatched a Dagger from of my Pages, which was with the ut- t Difficulty wrenched from her, be- ſhe had ſheathed it in her own Bowels; that you may not labour with further iculty as to her Life and Security, ſhe l have no future Opportunity for any onal Injury to herſelf. I am charmed ı both your Conſtancies; your Cou- hath gained both my Affection and lauſe; and as it hath ſo eminently laimed itſelf in this Inſtance, preſerve ut unſullied in my Wars, prove but rſelf deſerving of her there, and at my urn victorious, loaden with the Spoils ny Enemies, ſhe ſhall be reſtored to unblemiſhed.

then moſt humbly thanking his Ma- , aſſured him that he had winged my l, and each Faculty, with the utmoſt bition of meriting his Favour; nor

could I even covet his Benevolence, till I had deſerved it; but hoped that I ſhould neither be deprived of her Society or Aſſiſtance during our March.

He replied, that as well for my Sake, as her own, he had ſent her to his Palace, under a ſufficient Guard, to be reſerved from the Dangers and Fatigue of War, where ſhe would be in far greater Security than ſhe could be with me. He ordered me to behave with the ſame Intrepidity that I had already ſhewn, and to mention my Affair no more to him. This laſt Word was a Thunderbolt to me, for whatever my Fears were, my Mouth was from that Moment locked up in Silence, being ſenſible, that the leaſt future Hint of it, ariſing from my own Motion, muſt have coſt me my Life.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

Author gets Leave to view the Enemies Situation. Craves Men for an Expedition. Are granted him. Plants them so as to turn the Battle in their Favour. Takes the Enemy-King Prisoner. Abluffcar *amazed at it. Makes the Author his General. Resolved to triumph for his Victory. Order of it.* Sally *sees the Author enter in Triumph. Great Favour of the King.*

I Would have given the World itself, had I been Master of it, but to have been ascertained of *Sally*'s Knowledge of the King's Pleasure towards me; for I dreaded the fatal Stroke of her Despair, while but the least Suspicion of my Death should remain with her, notwithstanding all the Guard that could be placed over her; nor was I still without my Resolves, of determining the wretched and anxious

Life I led, under the Uncertainty of her Preſervation.

We were now almoſt arrived on the Enemies Frontiers, when our Scouts brought Information, that they were encamped about two Days March from us, to our Left, and were very numerous. The latter Part of the Account ſtruck ſuch a Damp over our Troops, which at moſt amounted but to fifteen thouſand Men, that the ſinking of their Courage was very viſible.

Obſerving the Reſolution of my Fellow-Soldiers to droop, I begged Leave of my Commanding Officer, with ſix more, whom I had ſelected for my Companions, to take a View of the Enemies Situation; for I told him, that as the King expected ſomewhat more from me than barely maintaining my Poſt, I would gladly be apprized in what Manner I could beſt diſpoſe myſelf for his Service. He permitted me

to

to go; when taking the Advantage of the Night for our March, we by peep of Day diſcovered their whole Order; ſo that having made myſelf Maſter of the Ground, I returned.

I then deſired to be conducted to the King, to whom I gave Account of all that I had ſeen, and that, by the Compaſs of their Camp, I could not eſtimate their Numbers at leſs than twenty-five thouſand Men; but I told his Majeſty, that tho'. my Inclination centered ſo ſtrongly in his Service, yet being but a private Man, and acting only in that Capacity, I could not render my Duty ſo effectual to him, as if I was to command but an hundred or two of Men myſelf; tho' I added, that my Station in my own Country was, to have the Direction of many more; and that if he would pleaſe but to intruſt me, with ſuch a Corps as he ſaw fit, I would either procure him Victory, or leave my Body upon the Plains.

The King perceiving me ſo anxious, and remarking from my Speech, that I had heretofore borne Command, granted my Requeſt, allowed me three hundred Horſe at my own chuſing, and then deſired me to inform him how I would diſpoſe of them.

I humbly begged his Majeſty to excuſe me, and permit me to act as I ſaw fit, and as Occaſion offered; intreating him to take no Thought for me, but to preſs boldly up to the Center of the Enemy, and make his ſtrongeſt Efforts to put them into Confuſion; then taking my Leave of him, I collected my little Corps, and by Night marched out of the Camp.

I had obſerved, upon my firſt View of the Enemies Diſpoſition, a long Mountain to the Right of our Army, extending parallel to the Plain, whereon we were to engage; and at about a Mile diſtant from the deſtined Scene of Action; behind this I col-

I collected my Men into an Hollow, much about the Middle of its Baſe, keeping a ſure Look out from thence by my Spies, to watch the Enemies Motions, and on the ſecond Morning after I left the Camp, the two Armies approached, within a Quarter of a Mile from each other.

I could not perceive by their Movements, that there would be any Engagement that Night; ſo that affording my Men all the Refreſhment that I could, I marched them to that End of the Mountain, which lay about a Mile in Flank of the Enemy, where we halted till Morning; then preparing for a Puſh, upon a Moment's Warning, we lay by till the Battle was joined; when ſpreading out twenty-five of my Men, under the Conduct of one of them, whom I appointed their Leader; I ordered them to keep on a round Trot, with their Line extended, at the Diſtance of two Yards, between Man and Man, till I ſhould order an Halt.

I led the ſecond twenty-five Men myſelf, at about fifty Yards behind the firſt Rank, with Command, for the third, fourth, and to the twelfth Line, to follow each other, in the ſame Order, and at like Diſtance. Now theſe ſeveral Bodies extending ſo far upon the Plain, from the Turn of the Foot of the Mountain, and ſtill dropping in one after another, cauſed the Enemy to be apprehenſive, that more might ſtill be behind; and not knowing how many more might flank them, leſt they ſhould be hemmed in by a double Flight of Arrows, they made a Side Retreat, to draw us all into Front; but *Abluffcar* puſhing them at the ſame Time in the Van, and my Men having Order to advance upon a Gallop, and draw up in their Rear, their Rout became unavoidable.

The Enemy King uſed all his Skill to rally his diſperſed Troops, but to little Purpoſe, his utmoſt Efforts not collecting above five hundred choſen Men round him, moſtly

moſtly of his Foot; which I obſerving, and calling off my Men from the Purſuit, I drew them into a Square, and marching up to the King, we forced the Out-lines which ſurrounded him, and preſſed up to his Elephant. He fought with the moſt undaunted Courage and Reſolution, killing three of my Men with his own Hand, by Javellins, all which having now ſpent, he made a Thruſt at me with his Spear, which I putting by, and at the Inſtant ſeizing; by an unexpected Jerk forced him from his Elephant, the Point of his Spear running, at the ſame Time, through my own Horſe's Neck.

The King was no ſooner down, than I had deſcended from my Beaſt, and extended my Hand to raiſe him up, (my Men incloſing us in a Circle) but he ſpurning away my Arm, was drawing his Sabre, as he lay; when catching him by the Beard, I diſarmed him, and uſing him ſomewhat more roughly, I mounted him on one of

my dead Men's Horſes, and croſſing another myſelf, I (holding his Bridle) galloped off with him to *Abluffcar*, whoſe Men, ſave a few about his Perſon, were purſuing the Enemy, with great Slaughter.

Abluffcar was amazed at beholding the Enemy King in his Power, when I preſented him; at the ſame Time, adding, that I hoped his Majeſty was now ſatisfied in my Conduct, and that I had performed all that he had expected from a Brave Man, as he had been pleaſed to ſtile me; but that if yet there remained any further Commands for me, I was ready prepared, and would execute them, at any Hazard.

Abluffcar ſhewed ſuch Tokens of his favourable Acceptance of my Services, (for tho he was ignorant of my having taken the King Priſoner, till I produced him; yet he was fully ſenſible that my falling upon their Rear had routed them) that

that he embraced me for ſome Time, gave me the Name of *Arſhreff*, or General, and kept me, for the moſt Part, near his Perſon, for the Reſt of the Campain; for we carried the Enemy King in Chains through his Dominions, plundering and ſacking not only his Capital, but every Town of Note, and at our Return drove Home to *Melinde* above ſix thouſand Priſoners.

Abluffcar having obtained ſo remarkable a Victory, was reſolved to enter his Royal City in the moſt ſplendid and magnificent Manner that his State would admit of; ſo that we encamped for ſeveral Days without the City, till Preparations were made for our Reception; and on the Day appointed, all the Royal Elephants being introduced to the Camp, with every Inſtrument of Muſick, and other Tokens of rejoicing, which the City contained; we began the Proceſſion by a March of Soldiers, then a ſelect Number of Slaves guarded; and ſo alternately, ſeveral Bodies

dies of each; then Muſick. The King's Elephants, two and two. *Abluffcar* ſtanding on his Elephant, with his Javelin in his Hand. The Enemy King on Foot, in Chains; then Guards and Slaves, alternately following, cloſed the Proceſſion.

We marched in this Order through the City to the Royal Palace, amidſt the joyous Acclamations of the Populace; upon Entry of which, the Guards and Slaves drew up round the outer Court, whilſt the King, myſelf, the Captive King, and his Elephants, with a Party of Body-guards, paſſed on to an inner Court, over the Paſſage, or Arch-way, leading to which, was my deareſt *Sally*'s Apartment.

The Noiſe, Hurry, and Confuſion of the Day, had drawn her to the Lattice, which overlooked the Arch we were to paſs thro', where ſhe no ſooner beheld me living, and placed ſo near to his Majeſty, diſtinguiſhed too by my Elephant, on which Creatures none

none other than myſelf and the King were advanced; than ſhe, in her Rage to come at me, tore down the Lattice-work, and leaning out half her Body, welcomed his Majeſty's Return, and thanked him for the Mark of his Benevolence (meaning me) which ſhe had diſcovered, ſhe ſaid, behind him; but we, welcomed each other by our Eyes only, flaſhing Rays, more ſubtil than Lightening, to each other's Souls.

I was terribly afraid leſt this Outrage of *Sally*'s ſhould have exaſperated his Majeſty to both our Undoing; for theſe Princes, tho' at ſome Time they may be led about like Children; on a ſudden, they will change their Natures to the Fierceneſs of Lions; and while they are careſſing you, will (from the leaſt wry Word, or wrong Conception) ſtab you to the Heart; but he ſeemed rather delighted at her Tranſport, ordering her immediately to be

be conducted to the great Hall, us at our alighting.

His Majeſty being ſeated, all hi took t[h]eir Stands around him, a their Homage; then calling me by he placed me on his Left-hand, Captive King at his Foot-ſtool; d publickly that I was his Arſhreff, his Victory was wholly owing to m manding all Orders and Degree Subjects to pay me Reverence, himſelf.

By this Time, *Sally* was entered the Croud at the lower End of the when his Majeſty beckoned to he proach him, and himſelf ariſing, Half-way; then ſaluting her, he towards a Seat, where he placed h Right-hand; then riſing again, and me in his Left, and her in his Rig bringing us both forward, he p declared, that he had never met

nce of conjugal Affection, ſo engage-
as in us two. He then gave me my
: again: "And let no Man from hence-
, ſaid he, dare to diſturb the Unity
h I hereby confirm to you, on Pe-
of being utterly conſumed, both
elf and his, with Fire." We both
ed, and on our Knees acknowledged his
eſty's Royal Clemency to us. Then
ring the Captive King to cloſe Con-
nent, he invited all his Court to a
nificent Repaſt prepared for them.

ully and I had a Lodging and Attend-
provided us, very near to the King's
Apartment; and now we had once
e a Proſpect of enjoying each other,
the reſt of human Beings again.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

Account of Sally *ſince ſhe left the Auth* Abluffcar *conſults the Author about p ting the Captive King to Death. Arguments thereon. Prevails for miſſing him graciouſly. Meſſage by Author to* Fu-Nabib. *His Recept Their Diſcourſe. Sets him at Liberty an Audience with* Abluffcar.

NO ſooner were *Sally* and I ſettlec our new Apartment, than I beg her to inform me of all that had befa her, ſince her being carryed away fi me. She aſſured me, that as to her ſtraint, both in her Journey, and after Arrival at the Palace, it had appeare nothing to her; ſhe being treated witl poſſible Regard and Humanity: But her Sufferings aroſe from the Neſcienc my Fate; ſome of her Guards (for tl were twelve of them) inſiſting upon

that I ſhould be pardoned, others inclining to the contrary Opinion, and the reſt doubting; ſo that ſhe told me, her Terror aroſe, in great Meaſure, from the Diſtraction of her Mind, which Point to adhere to; as for her own Part, ſhe ſaid, had ſhe met with no Oppoſition, ſhe ſhould not have heſitated a Moment at deſtroying herſelf; for in her own Conjectures, I was already dead; but ſhe aſſured me, that ſhe was not intruſted with the leaſt Inſtrument, that could be applied to her Departure, and the different Opinions of her Guides, by Turns prevailing in her Mind, made her as deſirous of retaining as parting with her Life, tho' ſhe had not the leaſt certain Intelligence of my ſubſiſting, till her own Eyes beheld me in my Elevation, next to the King's own Perſon; which Preferment, by what Means I obtained it, ſhe beſought me to inform her.

I then

I then ran over to her the Diſcourſe between the King and me, and my Proceedings, till I had taken the Enemy King Priſoner; with his Majeſty's Benificence conſequent on that Exploit; which having finiſhed, we gave Way again, to the rapturous Expreſſions of our own Flux of Paſſions.

Many Days had not paſſed ſince our Return, before *Abluffcar* informed me, that his Courtiers had adviſed him to put *Fu-Nabib* (that being the Name of the Captive King) to Death; for that ſhould he by any Means eſcape his Hands, his Country being large, and very populous, freſh Commotions would moſt probably ariſe, which would make his Majeſty's Nation a Seat of long, and deſtructive Wars; deſiring my Opinion, in what Manner it would be beſt to proceed with *Fu-Nabib*, either by Death, or perpetnal Impriſonment; for that in Caſe of the latter, he was ſatisfied, that his Subjects, who ſin-

loved him, would chuſe no other
ı during his Life-time, and that
:lves they would never be able to
:ad againſt him.

his Majeſty pauſed, to hear my
t: When (after expreſſing my
worthineſs and Inequality to ſo
aſk, as that of giving Advice to
a Monarch ſeemed to be, from
y mean Abilities; and that, in
of ſuch Nicety, as might ſo near-
n his whole Dignity) I replied,
ı Majeſty would coolly permit me,
deliver my Sentiments, and par-
Diſſent from either of the Me-
had mentioned, I would declare
iion, without the leaſt Reſerve:
h promiſing me he would readily
proceeded. That I had under-
m Fame, that *Fu-Nabib*'s Domi-
'e larger, and his Subjects more
ı than his Majeſty's; and that it
ofore been the Policy of his Ma-
jeſty's

jeſty's State, to keep a good Underſtan
ing with *Fu-Nabib*, for avoiding the I
commodiouſneſs of War; and that ev
the laſt was of *Fu-Nabib*'s own ſeekin
all which, the King acknowledged to
true.

I then told him, that by *Fu-Nabib*'s Dea
he would only raiſe to himſelf a new E
my in his Succeſſor; and as for his C
fiment for Life, it was more than probal
that the State would promote ſome H
to revenge his Quarrel; when, if by Fo
or Stratagem, they ſhould procure
Nabib's Liberty, I need not declare
Conſequences that might even attend
Majeſty's own Perſon, ſhould he be
ject to the Captive King's Circumſtan
for that the Fortune of War was vari
Upon the whole, I gave it as my Opin
that his Majeſty ſhould looſe the Fette
Fu-Nabib, uſe him nobly, take him int
Familiarity, diſmiſs him graciouſly;
that, even upon ſuch Terms as hin

ſh

ſhould propoſe; nor too rigorouſly exact even a literal Execution of them: That ſo parting in Amity, if *Fu-Nabib* had any Honour in his Compoſition, (which from his gallant Behaviour in the Field of Battle, I made but little Doubt of) it would exhibit itſelf by friendly Offices, and Affection to his Majeſty, rather than in the Proſecution of his late Quarrel; or at worſt, ſhould he relinquiſh the Ties of Gratitude, his Majeſty could with better Aſſurance defend an Injury intended him, and his Subjects would more readily, and heartily engage in his Defence, againſt the Aggreſſor.

The King had remained very attentive to my Speech, till having concluded: *Bangvell*, ſaid he, (for that was his Method of calling me) you are a fierce Man by your Actions; and yet in Words, are all Softneſs and Delicacy. I expected, that you would have counſelled me to have cut *Fu-Nabib* to Pieces, as a Terror

to

to his Countrymen, for Prevention of their engaging with me again; but you are for uſing him as a Friend and Companion. Whence can this proceed?

I replied, from a Senſe of his Majeſty's Intereſt, and from my Attachment to his Perſon; for I added, that his Benevolence would ſo move my Affection, as to intereſt myſelf in his Welfare; whereas, his Mal-treatment of me, would both rouze my Indignation, and Vengeance againſt him: For continued I, brave Men are ever endued with humane Natures, and as they are ſtirred to Emulation in Battle, ſo in every virtuous and Praiſe-worthy Action; for that the ſame Spirit that works in them the one, never fails to excite the other alſo; their favourite Principle being, never to be outdone.

Abluffcar, by Degrees, inclining to my Sentiments, gave me Commiſſion to treat with the Captive King, for his Enlargement,

t, in ſuch Manner as I pleaſed; en-
ng, upon the Word of a King, to ra-
whatever I ſhould conclude with

laving paid my Acknowledgements to
King, for the Confidence he repoſed
ıe, I took my Way to the Dungeon,
rein the impriſoned Monarch was con-
d. I found him lying upon an Heap
looſe Straw, in the Corner of a dark,
ome Cell, with only one narrow Chink
r the Ceiling, for the Introduction of
nall Glimmer of Light. The Horror
: this diſmal Sight occaſioned in me,
inexpreſſible; when I recollected him
the Light which but a few Days be-
: he had appeared in; at the Head of
gallant Army, Lord of a vaſt Terri-
y, and Soveraign of the Lives and
perties of many hundred thouſand
ıls.

I ſa-

I ſaluted him by his Title of Majeſty, which Word, I could perceive drew the Tears from his Eyes; when riſing up, he boldly demanded my Meſſage to him: Whether I came from *Abluffcar?* And if I brought with me the Sentence of his Death?

Puiſſant Monarch, replied I, (for that you are ſo, any Eyes can teſtify, tho' by the preſent Turn of War, now rendered captive for a Time.) This your inſtant Fate, but charges your Reflections with the Uncertainty of human Grandeur, and what may be the Change of the mightieſt Man's Condition, in the Twinkling of an Eye; and ſhould teach us all this Leſſon, that in Proſperity, encircled with all worldly Glory, and every temporal Advantage befriending us, we ſhould exerciſe ourſelves in Gentleneſs and Compaſſion for all Men; for there is not that deſpicable Wretch breathing, but in ſome Capacity or other, at proper Opportunities, may be

be capable of diſtreſſing us. My Maſter is clearly of this Opinion, and is in Hopes your Majeſty's Sentiments, accord with him; his Tenderneſs for your Majeſty's Miſhap has ſo exerciſed his Soul, that he can no longer ſuffer you, a King, his Brother, to taſte the Miſeries of this cloſe Reſtraint; but by me, invites you to partake the Delights of his Court, in equal Degree with himſelf, barely upon your own Parole, for your gentle Demeanour, till ſuch Terms ſhall be ſtipulated between you, for your mutual Confidence in each other, as his Juſtice may demand, and yourſelf accord, with Honour.

" Great Sir, ſaid *Fu-Nabib*, you are now " a double Conqueror. I muſt confeſs " myſelf the ſecond Time vanquiſhed by " you; nor can I ſay, but that this laſt " is far the more glorious Victory. The " Diſtance of the News you fill my Ears " with, from my prior Conception of " Things in my Situation, but demonſtrates

" (what hath often recurred to me) the Im-
" becility of the human Capacity. That
" the Affairs of Mortals are ſubject to a
" ſuperior Direction, I can now make no
" longer Doubt; or the Doom I have hi-
" therto expected, had never been reverſed:
" But that you, whoſe Proweſs in the
" Field I am but too ſenſible of, ſhould
" contain two ſuch oppoſite Natures, is
" to me amazing; yet how much more
" amiable is this, than that. You have
" convinced my Judgment, that as a Man,
" I ſhould ſubmit to the Viciſſitudes of
" Fortune, and by the Sequel of your
" Argument, have reclaimed the Fero-
" city of my Nature, and that Studiouſ-
" neſs of Revenge that hath hitherto in-
" groſſed my whole Frame, to Senti-
" ments of Candour, Benevolence, and
" Amity for your Maſter. He is my
" Brother, and Brethren let us remain, in
" Intereſt and Affection; I am perſuaded
" it will be beſt for us both, without
" waſting our Subjects, to vye with each

" other,

" other in good Offices; and methinks, " I feel, from the Motives of his recent " Kindneſs a Flood of Joy ariſing in " my Will, at the Proſpect of render- " ing him all ſuitable Returns, for his " Friendſhip to me; for that I muſt (at " all Events) acknowledge it to be, as " ariſing from him, whoſe I now am. " Tell your Maſter I am his Slave, would " be his Friend, and will be his Brother, " without Reſerve."

Expreſſing my Satisfaction at *Fu-Nabib*'s Declaration, I aſſured him, that I could not ſubmit to leave him in that loathſome Place, even whilſt I related his Anſwer to my Maſter; ſo that I invited him to my Lodgings, where I ſaid, I would place no Guard over a Man of that Honour I took him to be of; or that if he rather choſe to regale himſelf in any other Part of the Palace, he ſhould meet no Reſtraint. He thanked me, but would remain in my Lodgings till I returned.

CHAP. IX.

Author's Inſtruction to Abluffcar. *Purſued. Kings meet.* Fu-Nabib *ſent Home with Preſents. General Murmur of the Nobles at it. War proclaimed with the* Ganzites. *Author in extreme Danger. His Advice to ſeek* Fu Nabib's *Aid. Rejected. Complied with. Gain Aſſiſtance. Proſecute the War with Spirit. Releaſes* La Bruce. *Meets with* Malack. *Return Conquerors. Make Peace. Death of* Sally. *His Proceedings approved.*

WHEN I had ſtated the Conference between us, I perſuaded *Abluffcar* to grant *Fu-Nabib* an immediate Audience, and thereat, to expreſs ſuch Evidences of real Inclination for him, as he ſhould judge proper; and not to treat him too unequally. All which he reſolving on, (for he ſaid, as he had began by my Advice, he was determined to purſue it

it through the whole Affair) I introduced *Fu-Nabib*, as his Majeſty was ſitting on his Throne.

No ſooner had the Captive King entered the Hall, and made his Obeiſance to the Preſence, than *Abluffcar* riſing, met him half Way; nor would he permit thoſe Tokens of Subjection, which *Fu-Nabib* readily offered to pay him; but ſaluting him, led him to the Throne, where he obliged him to ſit on the ſame Seat with himſelf.

The two Kings thus placed, paid each other every Compliment and Return, ſuitable to the Occaſion; which ended, *Abluffcar* declared *Fu-Nabib* at Liberty to act and behave as he ſaw fit in his Palace, or elſewhere; but hoped he would ſpend ſome little Time with him, before his Return to his own Country, that a ſtrict and indiſſoluble Alliance, and Confederacy might be cemented between

them for their future Amity: And that as for the Captives taken in the War, ſuch of them as had fallen to his Majeſty's Share, attend *Fu-Nabib*, at his Return to his own ſhould Dominions. Then each King embracing the other, ſwore Truth and Fidelity to ſuch future Articles as ſhould be ſtipulated between them; the whole Tranſaction concluding with a moſt magnificent Entertainment; and from that Day, for about fourteen others, which *Fu-Nabib* ſpent at *Melinde*, he conſtantly ate at *Abluffcar*'s own Table, and the greateſt Part of their Time was ſpent together; when *Fu-Nabib* at his Departure, being laden with Preſents, and the Return of all that had been taken from his Palace, was eſcorted Home, under a Convoy of three thouſand Men.

The Diſmiſſion of *Fu-Nabib* had not been tranſacted without ſeveral diſſenting Sentiments, which ſoon after his Departure, ſpread themſelves in Invectives againſt me, as the Framer of that Scheme; even till the King

King himſelf was almoſt perſuaded, that he had erred in his Conduct; and where the Flame would have ended is uncertain; for that it would at length have ſeized me was but too apparent, had not the following Accident intervened.

There had for a long Time been Bickerings and Diſputes between the Kings of *Ganze* and *Melinde*, in Relation to the Conveyance of Slaves and Merchandize, from the Dominions of the former, thro' thoſe of the latter, to the Sea-Coaſts, without paying any Acknowledgement to *Abluffcar*; and ſometimes the Numbers of Men had been ſo great, as to give Umbrage to *Abluffcar*, of ſome ill Deſigns. Theſe Diſputes, at length, were wrought up to ſuch an Height, by *Abluffcar*'s ſeizing ſome of ſuch Commodities, that the King of *Ganze* raiſed all the Strength of his Dominions, with Intent to force a free Communication with the Ocean.

Abluffcar was in no Condition at preſent to withſtand the Power of the *Ganzites*, by his own ſingle Forces; and the Country were in ſtrange Conſternation; when I prevailed on the King to apply to *Fu-Nabib* for Succour. The Court were to a Man abſolutely againſt it; urging, that no fairer Opportunity could be wiſhed for by *Fu-Nabib*, for retaliating *Abluffcar*'s Injury, and the Indignity of his Confinement, than by ſetting upon *Melinde* himſelf, whilſt it ſhould be engaged in War with the *Ganzites*; and this they ſeemed to lay down, as the certain Conſequence of any Application to *Fu-Nabib*; for they held but a very mean Opinion of Faith between Princes.

I had no other Means of diverting this Storm from my own Head, but by maintaining the Steps I had already taken, and inſiſting on an Embaſſy to *Fu-Nabib*, which I ſtill ſtrenuouſly perſiſted in. Matters growing worſe and worſe daily, and

no

no Alternative to be concluded on, my Propoſal was at length ſeemingly acquieſced in; tho' by many of the State-Members (as I have great Reaſon to believe) from the Hopes they had, that the ill Conſequences of it would redound to my Deſtruction: But I, who could poſſibly be in no worſe Condition from *Fu-Nabib*'s ſacking the whole Country, than I then expected, ſtill perſevered in my Determination of ſending for the Succours, which was at laſt agreed upon, tho' with infinite Diffidence of the Succeſs.

Upon Return of this Embaſſy, it was reported by the Deputies (in open Aſſembly purpoſely convoked to hear and deliberate upon *Fu-Nabib*'s Anſwer) in what a loving Manner, and with what Reſpect and Magnificence, they were received and entertained; and then they delivered from that Monarch, that he would immediately march ten thouſand of his Forces to *Abluffcar*'s Aſſiſtance, and if he required it,

would lead them in Perſon. That in the mean Time, he would fall upon the *Ganzites* to the Weſtward, with another Body of ten thouſand, which he did not doubt, but by dividing the King of *Ganzes* Force, would ſo weaken him, as to reduce him to Submiſſion. Adding further, that in Caſe the propoſed Supply ſhould be deficient for the good Purpoſe deſigned, he would follow them with the whole Strength of his Kingdom.

This Anſwer was no ſooner delivered by the Ambaſſadors, than the whole Aſſembly of diſſenting Nobles hung down their Heads, altogether abaſhed at the Infuſions with which they had infected the Royal Breaſt: This his Majeſty himſelf obſerving, and clapping his Hand upon my Shoulder (for my Office of Arſhreff entitled me to the next Seat to him) I have, I muſt own, ſaid he, never hearkened to *Benvõlt*'s Advice, but to my Honour and Benefit; and my Lords, added he, be not de-

dejected; for I myſelf have, from Inclination, declined his Council upon the firſt Motion; but never had the Power to withſtand his Arguments, deduced from thence. You my Lords, have only heard his Propoſals, and I marvel not that you have diſregarded them; for you have not felt the Weight of his unanſwerable Reaſons. I profeſs his Penetration is deeper and his Projects more correſpondent to Nature, than my own; which having ſubmitted to acknowledge here publickly to you all; ſurely, not one amongſt you need be aſhamed of ſubſcribing to the ſame Conceſſion. It can derogate no more from yourſelves than me; and who is there amongſt you all, that will inſiſt upon better Judgment than his Maſter?

How far it proceeded from a Conviction of my ſuperior Talents, I ſhall not undertake to determine; but ſo it was, that the whole Aſſembly aroſe, and gave his Majeſty their Congratulations, upon his

his good Fortune in meeting with me; confeſſing, that my Way of thinking (new as it was to them) was far ſuperior to the Courſe and Uſage they had been inſtructed in, and had imbibed as firſt Principles; and heartily concurred in the Retraction of their former erroneous Opinions.

From this Time their Affairs ſeemed to have put on a new Face, and in the Room of that Diſpiritedneſs with which all their warlike Preparations had hitherto been proſecuted, never was more Alertneſs, or Expedition ſhewn, either in collecting the Forces, or in providing Neceſſaries for their Accomodation; ſo that before a Month was at an End, we had near twenty thouſand Men in Arms, Horſe and Foot, and the Reinforcement of ten thouſand more, were on the March to join them.

The *Ganzian* Monarch was ſo diſtreſſed by the Army drawing near to his Capital that he recalled Part of his Troops from the

the Frontiers of *Melinde*; which Tranſaction I having Notice of, prior to the King, beſought *Abluffcar*, to let me march five thouſand Men only to *Ganze*, in Order to join *Fu-Nabib*, where I was ſatisfied, I ſhould be of twice the Service to his Majeſty's Intereſt, as I could, by leading his whole Army to the Frontiers; and having gained his Conſent, I made forced Marches with ſuch Expedition, that I joined *Fu-Nabib* before he had began Hoſtilities.

The King of *Ganze* was ſo appalled at this News, that he withdrew from his Capital, leaving only ſome few of his Domeſticks, as a Guard upon his Women and Relations, whom he had confined there. We plundered the Palace, and burnt it to the Ground, firſt releaſing all the Priſoners; but the Guards had driven out all the Women by a Back-way, which we having Notice of, purſued, and took them, after a ſharp Rencounter.

How

How was I both rejoiced and amazed, at meeting with my old Friend *La Bruce* among the Captive Women! She knew me at firſt Sight, tho' I did not ſo readily recollect her, till ſhe ſpoke to me, crying out for Mercy. I then ordered her under a ſelect Guard, and when the Hurry of the Day was over, I enquired after *Malack*, whether ſhe knew what was become of him? She replied, that he was in the King's Guards, and was fled with him at our Approach.

Tho' I had a thouſand Things to have ſaid, and Queſtions to have aſked her; yet having very little Time for preſent Diſcourſe, I ordered her away to our Camp. I then conſulted with *Fu-Nabib*, whether we ſhould purſue the Fugitive King? Which he adviſing to, as the ſpeedieſt Means of procuring Peace, we went upon the Enterprize; but he having only a ſlight Number of ſelected Men with him, and thoſe all of the Horſe, we ſoon diſcovered

diſcovered the Impracticability of drawing him to a Battle; whereupon we ſent him Conditions of Peace, which conſiſting but of few Articles, he complied with, and *Fu-Nabib* and I withdrawing our Troops left him free Entrance to his Capital.

One of the Articles of Peace was, that he ſhould deliver into my Hands *Malack* one of his Guards, who was to be returned to me with the Articles. This the King complying with, poor *Malack* (wholly ignorant what Friend he had ſo near him) was under diſmal Apprehenſions of ſome immediate Puniſhment, if not of Death itſelf; but could not gueſs what he had been guilty of that ſhould be more criminal in him, than the reſt of his Comrades; however, he was conducted as a Malefactor to me, with his Hands tied behind him.

I purpoſed, upon his firſt Appearance, to have contracted my Viſage into Pleats of Terror

Terror to have diſmayed him, before I had diſcovered myſelf to him; but I no ſooner beheld his Face, than the former Paſſages of our Lives recurring to my Mind, my Reſoiution failed me, and (exalted as I then was ſo far above him) I could not reſtrain myſelf from falling on his Neck, and kiſſing him. O, my Dear Neve, ſaid *Malack*, ſinking down before me, and embracing my Knees, have I lived to this good Purpoſe, to ſerve you once more? I told him, that he had, and by my own Conſent, ſhould never more leave me. "Ah! ſaid that good Creature, is my "Neſs living?" I ſaid ſhe was, and would be no leſs rejoiced at the Sight of him, than myſelf: But, ſaid he, *La Bruce* is ſtill confined, releaſe her too, or I ſhall be but half preſerved. I replied, that ſhe was then in my Camp; upon which he was as delighted, as if the good Fortune had been his own Mother's, and was permitted by me to attend her, on our March Home.

It was at my Return from this Expedition, that I was met by the News of my Wife's Death; the Shock of which, was ſcarce tolerable by me; but as it had happened by the Operation of Nature only, I ſuſtained her Loſs with as little repining as I poſſibly could; preferring the King's Buſineſs to the Indulgence of my own private Paſſion. I alighted firſt at his Apartment, and preſented him with the Inſtrument of Peace; whereby no *Ganzite*, from henceforward, was to claim any Paſſage through his Majeſty's Territories to the Ocean, without being ſubject to ſuch Duties for Slaves, and other Merchandizes, as were therein ſtipulated. That the Bearers and Conductors of ſuch Goods, and ſuch Slaves, ſhould not exceed a limited Number at one Time, nor ſtay on the Coaſts above a certain Space, without Leave; and that they ſhould both paſs, and repaſs, by one ſtated Rout: And in Caſe of the Breach of the above Articles, all

all ſuch Goods and Slaves, ſhould be
lawful Prize.

This Capitulation being publiſhe
full Aſſembly, was unanimouſly appr
by all; and the King having ratified
was tranſmitted to *Gauze*. Thus e
this War, to the Honour of *Ablu*
which might have been (in its C
quences) moſt fatal to *Melinde*, had
Fu-Nabib ſo vigorouſly engaged i
The Honour of which, in the E
devolved wholly on me.

CH

CHAP. X.

or's Melancholy. Account of La Bruce *d* Malack. La Bruce *her Story. Her flections on her Condition among Rob-rs. - Assault upon her. Kills the Ra-ber. Her Apprehensions from the ext. Resolves to stand to the Truth.*

'AVING settled the Tranquility of the State, I retired to my own rtment, where the melancholy Pro- of my deceased Wife, as yet unbu- imbittered every offering Satisfaction, ngrossed my whole Attention. I col- d from the Report of my Domesticks, an obstinate Fever had carried her off, bout six Days, in Opposition to every rt that could be attempted for her Re- and tho' my Sorrow for so great a was at first inexpressible; yet, the mon Reflections on human Affairs and Necessity of Submission to those Dis-

pensations

penſations which are above our Reach, and equally demand the Acquieſcence of all Men, as annexed to, and Appendages of our Beings, by Degrees abated the Exceſs of my Sorrows, and ſuper-induced a Calm upon my Spirits, under the Proſpect of not long ſurviving her; for, ſaid I, ſhould my paſt Years be doubled to me, as by Courſe of Nature they poſſibly may; yet what is paſt appearing to me but a meer Trifle, of no Conſequence, what is ſtill to run, will hereafter be the ſame, and forgotten too; and perhaps we may meet again, in truer Delights than this ſublunary Earth could have afforded us.

I buried her with all becoming Decency after the Manner of the Country, and having ſpent ſome Weeks in Reflection and the Contemplation of her Virtues, reſumed my publick Function in the State again.

a Bruce and *Malack* were now my Aſſiſtants, and Privy-counſellers; for uld not endure to ſee *Malack*, who with ſuch Conſtancy and Delight at-ed himſelf to me, and contributed ſo tly to my paſt Enjoyments, now ſerv-me in the mean Capacity of a Slave; united him in Participation of my ndeur, and received him to my Boſom Friend, in which Relation his Inte-r to me, ceaſed not to diſplay itſelf in minuteſt Inſtances; tho' all my En-'ours for his Advancement would ne-induce him, perſonally, as to myſelf, ake upon him more than the Form of rvant.

a Bruce managed all the Concerns of Family, and was the Partner of all Solicitudes, and ſave that affectionate reſt which ariſes from the Union of lies as well as Minds, was in all out-d Regards, of equal Comfort to me ny Wife had been.

When

When I was become publickly converſable in my Family, I demanded of *La Bruve*, what had happened to her and *Malack*, from that Set of Villains who had juſt ſeized her, when I made my Eſcape with *Sally?* She replied, that immediately after our Flight, ſome of the Raviſhers confined herſelf and *Malack*, whilſt the Horſemen purſued us; but what was become of us none of them could give the leaſt Account, at their Return next Day to their Companions; being at a great Loſs to think how we ſhould have poſſibly avoided the ſtrict Search they had made after us; for that they rode all Night about the Wood, we muſt have entered, by the Side of a vaſt River, which it was impoſſible we could have paſſed, without drowning; nor would they imagine us ſo little in our Wits, as to have attempted it: But having ſpent themſelves and Cattle with Fatigue, they curſed their Fate in miſſing us, eſpecially *Sally*, whom

ſhe

ſhe ſaid, they told her, they prized far beyond herſelf.

She added, that ſhe had no great Reaſon to complain of their Treatment to her, for ſome Days; they behaving to her with all Deference and Sobriety; till having eſpied ſome Travellers at a prodigious Diſtance, paſſing a vaſt Deſert, they went upon the Purſuit of them, taking *Malack* with them, and leaving herſelf behind, with only one Keeper, in a ſmall Growth of Buſhes and Under-wood, where they ordered them to remain till their Return; having given her Guard a ſtrict Command not to be any Ways rude or abuſive to her.

They were no ſooner gone, ſhe ſaid, than having but one Companion, ſhe begged him to inform her, what Fate ſhe was deſtined to, and whether ſhe was to be carried into Slavery or not, and to what Place? He told her, ſhe was to be ſold

ſold to the King of *Ganze*, to be kept amongſt his Women. She then beginning to reaſon with him, upon the Cruelty of the Caſe, that one Part of Mankind ſhould attempt to deprive others of their Liberty, to which from the Creation they had all equal Pretence; and wondering how any ingenuous Tempers could ſubmit to turn Pandars for the Luſt of another, to the undoing of the Object they would pretend to admire; he made very light of her Arguments, and only laughing at her, aſked how ſhe could be better provided for, than in his Maſter's Palace? But added he, I never ſuffer him to pluck the firſt Fruits of thoſe that I carry to his Bed; he has enough of them already, and we only augment their Members for State; you might die a Maid at laſt, when you come thither, unleſs ſome Accident ſhould befriend you; but that this may not be your hard Fate, I am reſolved to make a Woman of you, now I have you here alone. With this, ſhe ſaid, he fell upon her to maſter

maſter her, (ſhe having before declared ſuch an Abhorrence to his Speeches, that he had no Hopes of prevailing by fair Means) and after long Struggling, till ſhe being ſo ſpent, that ſhe had not the leaſt Strength left for Reſiſtance, he was on the Point of accompliſhing his Brutality; when almoſt driven to Deſpair, ſhe eſpied a ſhort Dagger hanging by his Side, within her Reach, and collecting all her remaining Vigour, ſhe inſtantly drew it, and plunged it to the Haft in his Side.

She believed, ſhe ſaid, that he felt himſelf mortally wounded; for that immediately turning himſelf from her, "You have done it, ſaid he, but I will not fall alone." Then endeavouring to wrench the Dagger from his Body, ſhe perceived his Efforts to grow fainter and weaker, till he ſunk acroſs her Lap (as ſhe lay) Stone-dead.

He was no ſooner fallen, than ſhe thought ſhe ſhould have gone beſides her Senſes, from the Crowd of Doubts, and Suſpicions, that at once had entered her Imagination. The Terror of a bleeding Corpſe upon her, whilſt ſhe lay on her Back, in ſuch a Poſture as not to be able to remove its Weight, or even to raiſe herſelf upon her Seat; the Dread of his Companions Reſentment, at their Return, on Sight of their Fellow ſlain by her Hands; and the Indignities that ſhe might be compelled to ſuffer on that Account, were all ſo many Furies tearing and tormenting her very Soul, and denying her the leaſt Compoſure or Peace.

At length, ſhe ſaid, with infinite Labour and Struggling, ſhe turned herſelf on her Face, when the Difficulty of attaining to her Legs, and diſcharging herſelf from the Corps, was ſoon conquered. She called all her Reaſon to her Aid, and entered

entered with herſelf into a long String of Arguments, of what ſhe had beſt to do, and how to behave in her then preſent Circumſtances. She was alone; but how long ſhe might remain ſo, was uncertain: She might attempt to deliver herſelf from the Hands of thoſe Wretches by Flight; but then it was all a vaſt Deſert Plain around her, (ſave the little Thicket ſhe was in) and ſhould ſhe be taken in her Flight, no Pretence of hers, that the Security of her Honour had occaſioned the Death of their Aſſociate, would be credited; nor would they conceive leſs of her, than that ſhe had robbed him of his Life by Surprize, or Treachery. If ſhe ſhould eſcape, whither to ſhould ſhe fly? Perhaps only into the Clutches of thoſe, who might more groſsly abuſe her.

Upon all Conſiderations therefore, ſince Flight was not to be attempted with Se-

curity, ſhe reſolved to wait the Iſſue where ſhe was, and to ſubmit to ſuch Conſequences as ſhould attend the Truth of the Fact, and that only.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

La Bruce's *Terrors. Robbers pardon the Fact. Sent to* Ganze. *Diſcourſe on returning to* England. *Gets the Confidence of a* Portugueze *Factor. Contrives an Eſcape by his Means. Diſpatches the* Portugueze *Concerns with the King.*

IT was a moſt diſmal Situation we may be ſure, *La Bruce* was now in, nor had ſhe ever till this Fact, in her whole Life, paſſed her Moments ſo diſmally to her Apprehenſions before; but the Spoilers not returning with the Lapſe of Day, inveſted her with ten Times the Horror which ſhe had till then endured; for what could ſhe do in the Dark, alone, with the dead Carcaſs by her Side; which of itſelf was ſo ſhocking to conſider? Again, when ſhe viewed herſelf, as expoſed to the Attacks of the Savage Beaſts, which nightly prowled about thoſe Wilds, without the

leaſt Help or Defence near, it reduced her almoſt to Deſperation; but no Relief offered, nor was any poſſibly to be attained. Under theſe Anxieties her Time wore away, till ſhe perceived it to begin to dawn for Morning, when riſing from her Seat, for ſhe had not ſlept a Wink, and as the Light encreaſed, looking around her, ſhe beheld the Robbers returning.

She declared, that altho' they had hitherto been ſo much her Averſion, yet ſhe could not but behold them with Satisfaction; but ſhe dreaded their Knowledge of their murdered Companion. At length, rouſing up her Reſolution, as they advanced, ſhe went forward to meet them; and deſiring them to halt a Moment, ſhe fell on her Knees before them, and begging their Pardon, declared the Truth in every Circumſtance, of their Fellow's Death; aſſuring them, that the Accident happening ſoon after their Departure, ſhe being alone, might have had Time enough

to

to have made her Escape, but could not submit to leave such a Blemish upon her Honour behind her, uncleared up to them, lest they should have suspected her of murdering him by Surprize.

They all paused awhile, upon the Delivery of her Story; when one of them, ordering her to rise from her Knees, in the Name of them all, commended her Conduct, and Resolution, which every Voice at length concurring in, she was honourably acquitted, and returned with them to the Thicket, where after examining the Body they buried it.

She remained with them in this strolling Way of Life, she said, for a long Time, till being arrived much nearer Home than they were at first, *Malack* and she were dispatched away with five Guards only, to the Court of *Ganze*, and there separated; *Malack* to a Post amongst the King's Guards, and herself to the Apart-

ment of the King's Miſtreſſes: But the Fatigue ſhe had undergone in her Travels, and the Anxiety ſhe had ſuffered in her Mind, before ſhe had been there a Fortnight, threw her into ſuch an ill State of Health, that ſhe expected to have died every Day; ſo that ſhe had never as yet ſeen the King; for ſhe had been but very few Weeks recovered before I freed her.

La Bruce had no ſooner finiſhed her Relation, than ſhe intreated me to give her an Account of myſelf and *Sally*, from our Separation from her and *Malack*, and by what Means I became held in ſo great Eſteem by *Abluffcar*; all which I having informed her of, ſhe replied, that I being ſo great at *Melinde*, ſhe preſumed, I ſhould ſcarce ever entertain Thoughts of returning to *England* again.

I pauſed a little upon what ſhe ſaid; for I ſhould not lightly have declared my Sentiments to every one; but having received

ceived ſo many convincing Proofs of her Attachment to me, I replied, that I had long been ruminating on that Event, but particularly ſince the Death of my Wife; that my Inclination had, from that Time, tended with much more Earneſtneſs towards Home; and that the readieſt Means that I could propoſe to myſelf was, to ſteal off to ſome of the *Portugueze* Factories; from whence I doubted not of procuring a Paſſage to *Europe*.

La Bruce, who had all along liſtened very attentively to my Diſcourſe, hoped, ſhe ſaid, that I would make ſome Proviſion for her Return too; for that ſhe ſhould be hopeleſsly miſerable, in being left alone, without one Friend in the Country.

Her eager Deſire for joining in my Flight (for I was well aſſured that *Abluffcar* would never conſent to my Departure) introduced frequent Conferences between

us on that Head, and diverſe Meaſures had at Times been debated between us for its Accompliſhment; when a Deputy arrived from one of the *Portugueze* Settlements on the Coaſt, to crave ſome Immunities for their Subjects, within his Majeſty's Dominions.

This *Portugueze* applied to me for his Introduction to the King, offering me ſome Preſents, which he had brought for the ſpeedier Diſpatch of his Negotiation. Having heard his Requeſt, I refuſed his Gifts; but aſſured him, that the Matter of his Petition not appearing to me prejudicial to his Majeſty, I would procure him Satisfaction in it, upon his Engagement to gratify me in a Demand I ſhould make on him; and in the mean Time, to reſerve to himſelf the Subject of it, under the ſtricteſt Tie of Secreſy; and that he might have the leſs Opportunity of divulging it to any one, I offered him my Houſe,

Houſe, till his Affairs ſhould call him back again.

The *Portugueze*, who was as perſonable, and well-bred Man, as ever I converſed with, aſſured me, that my Readineſs to oblige the Factory, not only heaped indiſpenſible Obligations on him, their Repreſentative; but on each particular Member of their Body, and that whatever lay within the Extent of their Power, I had only to command before Performance; and at the ſame Time, deſired me to place all Confidence in him; for that not a Syllable ſhould tranſpire from him, but under my Authority; and I verily believe, he ſpoke from his Heart.

I then revealed to him my firſt accidental Settlement in this Country, the Means of my Advancement, and the Eſteem the King held me in, with the Riches that I had procured in his Service; but none of theſe, I told him, could

could balance the Propenſity I had for my native Country; and that the Favour which the Factory could oblige me in was, only to further my Conveyance to *Europe*, whenever I ſhould appear amongſt them with my Family.

I had but hinted my Requeſt, before he replied, that he blamed me not for my Inclination to the Place of my Nativity, for that it was his own Caſe; and that whenever I pleaſed to honour the Factory with my Preſence, I ſhould be diſpatched with all poſſible Speed.

I conducted him to an Audience of the King, whom I had previouſly acquainted with his Buſineſs, and whoſe Conſent was now to be demanded only for Form-Sake: Where having obtained his Deſire, after about ten Days Stay with me, he returned highly ſatisfied, not only with the ſpeedy Succeſs of his Negociation,

ciation, but with his kind Entertainment from me, to whom he gave the ampleſt Aſſurances of Accommodation, on my Arrival at the Factory.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

The Author diſcourſes La Bruce, *about the* Portugueze. *Fears ſhe was in Love with him. Author intended to marry her. Miſunderſtanding of each other. Declares himſelf for Marriage. Her Anſwer. Form Schemes for eſcaping. Deceives the Court. Flies with* La Bruce *and* Malack *to the* Portugueze *Factory.*

THE *Portugueze* had not been many Days gone, e'er I advanced the Topicks of our Diſcourſe before *La Bruce*; who told me, that ſhe looked upon the *Portugueze* to be as poliſhed a Gentleman, as ſhe had ever ſeen; and that he had been exceeding complaiſant to her; inſomuch, that ſhe almoſt ſuſpected him for a Lover; for truly, ſhe ſaid, he had poured forth Abundance of fine Speeches to her, when at any Time I was abſent, even more than ever ſhe had heard before.

Then,

Then, said I, *La Bruce* you are sorry that he parted so soon from you. No truly, she replied, his Words were *en passant* to her, nor did she presume that he had any further, or other Meaning in them, than to divert himself; but that had she been hard pressed by him, he was so amiable a Person, that she could not say how she might have conducted herself.

I had ever, from the first Glimpse that I had had of *La Bruce*, from the Back of her Elephant, in my own Imagination, conceived her to be the most engaging Person of her Sex; tho' my inviolable Affection for *Sally* had ever stifled those, or any other Suggestions to her Prejudice; but since her Death, they had daily more and more predominated, in Favour of *La Bruce*, till I had determined to offer her Marriage, so soon as a decent Regard to *Sally*'s Memory would permit me.

La Bruce, having now fired my Soul, by the ſeeming Satisfaction with which ſhe mentioned the *Portugueze*, and his Compliments to her; I could no longer (leſt his Image and Speeches ſhould form a Lodgment in her Heart, too permanent to be eradicated) forbear diſcloſing my own Sentiments to her. "O, *La Bruce*, ſaid "I, what has this Stranger done! What "Diſquiet hath he engendered in my "tortured Breaſt! I perceive that you "love him, and I am loſt."

La Bruce, whoſe Cheeks reddened like Scarlet, ſeemed abſolutely confounded at what I had uttered. "Mr. *Bingfield*, re-"plied ſhe, you amaze me by the Vehe-"mence with which you ſeem to be agi-"tated; but what can you poſſibly mean "by it; or wherein can I have injured "you? It is true, the *Portugueze* did "utter ſome flattering Compliments to "me, and cloathed in Hints of Love "too; but can you imagine, that I, (for

"the

" the Sake of any new Acquintance)
" ſhould either conſent to, or act, any
" Thing detrimental to your Intereſt?
" I did confer with him upon our Eſcape
" too; but by Way of Reply only, to
" ſuch Diſcourſe as he informed me he
" had already had with yourſelf upon the
" Subject; nor can you conceive that any
" private Affairs (had there been any ſuch
" tranſacting between us) could ever have
" been concurred with by me, to your
" Prejudice. No, believe me, Sir, I am
" as ſecret in your Concerns as your own
" Heart, and from no Motives upon
" Earth can be biaſſed to prove falſe to
" you."

" My dear *La Bruce*, ſaid I, you take
" me wrong. I never feared your diſ-
" cloſing my Secrets, or being falſe-hearted
" to me in that Reſpect; but I am con-
" founded at the Neceſſity I lie under,
" (ſo ſuddenly after the Death of a Wife
" once ſo dear to me) of declaring, that
" if

" if I find not her Fellow in you, I am " an undone Man. This, my *La Bruce*, " is what I would have you ſenſible of, " before you give Way to the deluſive " Speeches of any other; for you only " have it in your Power to render me for " ever the happieſt, or moſt miſerable " among Mortals."

La Bruce had no ſooner given me the Hearing, and obſerved what an Agony I had put myſelf into, (for ſhe was ſenſible I was not inſincere) than ſhe declared, that all ſhe had ſaid, relative to the *Portugueze* Diſcourſe with her, had been meerly in Lieu of other Topicks of Converſation; and reported by her in no other Light, than as a Matter applicable to her Vanity; but added, that the Effect which it had produced, in the Expreſſions I had made of my Affection to her, could not but convey the moſt ſenſible Delight to her Senſes; for that I was already ſatisfied her Obligations to me were too accumulated

to

to permit her (in Breach of the moſt binding Ties of Gratitude) to oppoſe my Inclination in any Thing, much leſs in what would for ever redound ſo much to her own Honour and Felicity.

Having thus fairly broken the Ice (tho' I did not as yet intend to have done it) we from henceforth looked upon, and behaved towards, each other, as Man and Wife in Intereſt and Affection, to be confirmed ſo ſoon as we ſhould arrive at the *Portugueze* Factory; nor was that Bleſſing in Expectancy any of the leaſt Spurs to our Preparations for that Journey; but how to bring about our Departure unſuſpectedly, was our main Difficulty.

We had formed diverſe Schemes, but all liable to Objections, which had ſo delayed the Time, that our Impatience was almoſt arrived to a Criſis; when a Start took my Fancy, that to indicate a Deſign of eſtabliſhing myſelf abſolutely at *Melinde*, would

would be the readieſt Means of renderi
my Abſence for a few Days leſs remark
by the King; for I had received many I
timations of the watchful Eye his Majeſ
kept over me.

I firſt gave out, that I purpoſed to
move from the Apartment his Majeſty h
been pleaſed to aſſign me, as too ſtraig
and incommodious for my Views, and
erect me a ſuperb Building for myſ
and Poſterity; and for that I had had
Children by my firſt Wife, I would n
marry again. I then applied to his M
jeſty for a Piece of Ground, formerly
cloſed for a Park, about three Miles fr
the Palace, which had only a ſmall Banqu
ting-houſe upon it, whither his Maje
but very ſeldom retired to, under an
ſurance, that intending to marry and ſe
in that Country, I would thereon eſtabl
my Family.

T

The King, who coveted no more than to fix me in his Dominions, made not the leaſt Scruple of granting my Petition; ſo that I now ſet about my new Project, with all poſſible Shew of Perſeverance. I cauſed great Quantities of Materials to be laid in of all Sorts for Building; I ſent Furniture to the Banquetting-houſe, for myſelf and Servants to lie there, that I might the better inſpect the Proceedings: In ſhort, I had employed ſo many Hands, and was ſo conſtantly amongſt them, that I was but rarely looked for at the Palace; and all the Diſcourſe at Court was, of the Magnificence of my Building Scheme.

My Preſence at Court being not now much expected; that I might the better abſent myſelf ſome Days from my Workmen, I gave out that Buſineſs would detain me for ſome Time in the City; when all my Treaſure being packed up, (for I had converted moſt of my Money into Jewels) I took *Malack* and *La Bruce* with me,

me, and deviating from the Road, (
we were paſt Diſcovery from the Buil
we rode for the Sea-Coaſt, for ſi
Hours, without any more Intermiſſion
was abſolutely neceſſary for the Ref
ment of ourſelves and Cattle. In ſ
we put the Horſes to the Stretch, al
ing only ſo much Reſt, that they migh
fail us, till in as few Days as poſſible
arrived at the *Portugueze* Settlement.

CHA

CHAP. XIII.

Well received by the Factory. Invite them to his Wedding with La Bruce. Gomarez *threatens the Author.* La Bruce *terrified. Informs the Author of it. Takes Measures for his Defence. Kind Professions of* Crisalvo. *Gives* Malack *Instructions. Beset by Assassines. Kills two of them. Takes the third Prisoner. Prisoner kept in Custody. Author dismissed.*

THE first Person whom we enquired for upon our Arrival, was *Gomarez*; (that being the Name of the *Portugueze* who had been with me at *Melinde*) who not only welcomed us himself, but introduced us to the Factory, who all did the same; expressing the Obligation they were under to me for the Dispatch they had met with at *Melinde*, by my Means. They told me, that they had been informed by *Go-*

Gomarez, of the Requeſt I had made to him, with which they would moſt readily comply, by the firſt Shipping that returned; and were ſorry, for my Sake, that it would be ſome Months firſt; for that the Veſſels, deſtined for *Europe*, were but lately departed; but hoped I would not be uneaſy at my Stay, for that the Factory would take Charge both of our Perſons and Concerns, and that we ſhould be entertained at their Expence, till we ſailed.

We had not been many Days in our Apartment, before each of the Factory, in their Turns, had complimented us ſingly, and we them; and ſeveral of them having one Evening invited me to a Collation, I told them, that as my Stay was likely to be ſo long with them, I would beg the Favour of one of their Prieſts to lend me his Aſſiſtance, in marrying me to a Lady I had brought with me for that Purpoſe; at the ſame Time, making one general Invitation of the whole Factory, to aſſiſt, not only

only at the Ceremony itſelf, but at an Entertainment which I would prepare for them afterwards.

My Marriage, and Invitation, infuſed an univerſal Glee through the whole Company, they all promiſing to be of the Party; for I deſired that my preſent Invitation might be general, as well for themſelves preſent, as the abſent Members. We then appointed the Day, when we were all to meet at my Apartment, and to march to the Church in a full Body.

The prefixed Time being the Day Sev'n-night of my Invitation, I had deſired *La Bruce* to prepare every Thing in the moſt elegant Manner poſſible, for the Reception of ſo many good Friends; and ſhew as as buſy as a Bee upon the Performance: But on the fourth Day in the Evening,) I having dined Abroad with ſome of the Factory, with whom I was in ſtricter Alliance than the reſt) at my Return, *La*

Bruce informed me, that ſhe laboured with inexpreſſible Concern, at ſomething which had happened in my Abſence; and that ſhe would not have thought of mentioning it to me, but from an Apprehenſion of the ill Conſequences of its Suppreſſion.

Her deliberate Preface but excited in me the greater Curioſity to diſcover it; when ſhe told me, that *Gomarez* had been to pay her his Compliments, ſeeming highly diſguſted at her intended Marriage to me; inſiſting, that it was an Inſult put upon him, who at *Melinde* had declared his Paſſion for her, and had ever ſince propoſed to proſecute it; for that ſhe gave him no Denial. She aſſured him, ſhe ſaid, that ſhe never eſteemed any Part of his Converſation to her there, as a Requeſt of her in Marriage; nor (tho' he was pleaſed to pay her ſome Compliment more than ſhe deſerved, by any forced Interpretation of his Behaviour to her) could ſhe conſtrue what paſſed between them, into more than

(now

(now and then) a gallant Excurſion, ſuch as flowed too frequently from his Sex to hers; but ſhe aſſured him, that we had been long contracted to each other, and therefore, whatever Views he might have had, as they were unknown to her, ſhe was obliged to proceed in her preſent Engagement with me, nor could ſhe poſſibly retract; tho' ſhe returned him infinite Thanks for his favourable Thoughts of her.

She told me, that, after fixing his Eyes for ſome Time upon the Center, he aroſe in violent Diſcontent, and turning furiouſly from her, muttered out, that he was tricked, and that if he could not enjoy her, no one elſe ſhould; from which Behaviour ſhe could not be without her Fears, ſhe ſaid, of his meditating ſome deſperate Miſchief againſt me.

I muſt confeſs, that her Suſpicions ſeemed not to me to be ill founded; for I had often heard of the malicious Aſſaſſinations of

the *Italians* and *Spaniards*, to whom, thinks I, as Couſin Germans, the *Portugueze* are but too nearly allied. Again, not having an old ſtanch Friend upon the Spot, in whom I could confide for Advice, how to behave in this Dilemma, I was wholly at a Loſs to whom to reveal this Secret, unleſs to *Criſalvo*, with whom I had formed an Intimacy; for to confine myſelf to my Apartment, I judged an Act of Meanneſs, ill-ſuiting my Character as a Soldier; and to make a publick Declaration of what I had heard, or to require a Reſtraint might be laid upon my Adverſary, would fix an Imputation of Cowardice upon me, that I was not willing to ſuſtain: But imparting my Suſpicion to one, who had profeſſed a peculiar Regard for me, could give no Umbrage for even a Surmize to my Diſhonour.

Big with this Reſolve, I charged my Pockets with a Brace of loaded Piſtols; I took alſo my Scimitar, and a ſhort Dagger at

at my Girdle, and away I went to *Criſalvo*. I opened to him the Occaſion of my Viſit, and from him, required Information of the Laws againſt Aſſaſſines, and the Means to be applied, in Caſe of Attempts of that Nature. He replied, that he hoped I muſt imagine himſelf to abhor any Thing of that Kind, tho' he was aſhamed to ſay, it was too common amongſt his Countrymen; but that he would procure the Party to be attached upon Suſpicion, or accompany and aſſiſt me himſelf, if I pleaſed, at any Time and Place, where I might be apprehenſive of Danger.

I returned him Abundance of Thanks, for that diſtinguiſhing Teſtimony of his Good-will, and judging from thence that he was really in my Intereſt, I unfolded to him my firſt Regard for *La Bruce*, in my deceaſed Wife's Days; my Reſolution ever ſince of making her my Wife; of the Reſpects *Gomarez* had paid her at *Melinde*, and what had paſſed between him and her,

but the preceding Day, at my Apartment, and required his Opinion, whether my Jealouſy ſeemed well-founded, or chimerical only?

Criſalvo replied, that he was ſo far from condemning my Conjectures, that he verily believed I had but too much Ground for them; he begged me to be cautious how I expoſed myſelf; and as there would paſs but two Nights before my Marriage, and whatever was in Agitation would moſt probably fall out in one of them, he adviſed me either not to come Abroad for that Time, as I had done, or to be compleatly armed and guarded.

As for confining myſelf, contrary to my Cuſtom, I could not be perſuaded to that; for I told him, I had much rather confront my Enemy, at a Time when I might expect him, than be ſurprized at unawares, and off my Guard; and as for multiplying my Attendants, I would only take

take my own Man with me, whose Courage and Fidelity I had experienced; and if I was but attacked with equal an Number, I would not fear them; but as to the Arrest, I could bear no Thoughts of that.

Malack had followed me to *Crisalvo's*, armed at all Points as I was; so that I resolved to wait my Foe that Night, rather than to live under future Anxiety; and either to vanquish him, or fall, myself, in the Action.

I had provided *Malack* with proper Instructions for his Behaviour, in Case of an Assault; and about ten o'Clock at Night, set forwards on my Way Home; but under great Circumspection; for I went first myself, and had ordered *Malack* to keep at least ten Paces behind me, and narrowly to observe, that no one should attack him in the Rear.

The Moon was up, but its Body obſcured with thin Clouds, ſo that I could ſee tolerably well croſs the Street, and right forwards; but my Apartment being in a Side-Street, I was obliged to turn very ſhort to go down it. Here it was that I expected the Onſet, as much the propereſt Place for ſuch a murderous Purpoſe, it being not only darker there, but the Aſſailant might ſtand ſecure, till I, by turning upon him, ſhould deliver my Body into his Hands.

I own, my Heart trembled at turning this Angle; but (from what Impulſe, other than of my meer Imagination, I can't ſay) juſt as the very next Step would have preſented my Body beyond the Point, I had ſcarce grounded my Foot, before I retracted it again, and recovered my Step backwards; at which Inſtant a Piſtol fired. I had then one in my Right-hand, and furiouſly ruſhing into the Croſs-Street, I fired upon two or three Men whom I ſaw there,

there, one of which dropped inſtantly, and the other two making at me with their drawn Swords, I ſcorned to make a further Uſe of my Piſtol in Reſerve, but drew my Scimitar, and engaged them.

By this Time *Malack* was come up, and had entered upon Action, which diſengaged me from one of my Opponents; but not before the other had run me thro' the Left-arm. This ſo exaſperated me, that aiming one ſevere Blow at his Head, I miſſed that, but carried away the greateſt Part of the Fleſh of his Right-arm, and three Fingers of his Sword-hand; and before I was ſenſible of the Succeſs of my Blow, I had, by a ſtrong Thruſt, ran him through the Body.

Malack and his Adverſary were ſtill in furious Conteſt, when being deſirous of ſparing one of the Inſtruments, for the better Diſcovery of the Villainy; I clapped

my Scimitar to his Side, inſiſting, that if he dropped his Arms, he ſhould be ſpared, if not, that I would puſh it directly through his Body.

The poor Fellow perceiving his Danger, and that Death muſt unavoidably ſucceed to his Obſtinacy, ſurrendered at Diſcretion. I carried him back my Priſoner to *Criſalvo*'s, leaving the two dead Men upon the Spot of Action. *Criſalvo*, upon Sight, recollected him to be *Gomarez*'s Servant, and adviſed me to conduct him before the Governor; but being extremely deſirous of informing myſelf who the other Aſſaſſins were, (for our Priſoner ſtood mute to all our Enquiries) I begged that he might be ſecured, till *Criſalvo* ſhould have been with me, to inform ourſelves who the Deceaſed were; but it was no hard Matter for either of us, when we arrived with a Light, to point out *Gomarez*, tho' in Diſguiſe, by his Face, which then lay upwards;

wards; and the third, was another of his Servants, who were both ſtark dead.

We then took the Priſoner with us to the Governor, where I gave Information of all that had happened; intreating him to examine the Priſoner ſtrictly: But there was little Room for urging any Thing by Way of Mitigation for me, when *Criſalvo* had aſſured the Governor of my Errand to him that Day, and the Priſoner had confeſſed, that his Maſter had ſpirited up himſelf and his Fellow-Servant to aſſaſſinate me, at my Return from *Criſalvo*'s; adding, that neither himſelf or the deceaſed Servant, would be prevailed upon to concern themſelves in ſo vile an Action, till his Maſter, inſiſting upon it, by Way of Encouragement to them, offered to lead them himſelf; upon which they could no longer oppoſe him.

The Governour ordered myſelf and the Priſoner to be kept in Cuſtody till the

next

next Morning, when he would convoke the Council, and lay the Affair before them; but *Criſalvo* engaging for my Appearance, I was permitted to return Home to my Family.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIV.

La Bruce *diſtracted with Fears. Author is wounded. Diſcourſe between them. Author acquitted by the whole Factory. Marries* La Bruce. Abluffcar *ſends to demand him. Shipped off by the* Portugueze. *Think themſelves happy. Are followed by a Pyrate. Reſolve to defend themſelves.* La Bruce *dreſſes as a Sailor. Are taken. Sail for* Madagaſcar. *Priſoners ſeize the Veſſel.*

UPON my Return Home, from this Scene of Slaughter and Confuſion, I there found poor *La Bruce* almoſt ſmothered in Tears; the Cataſtrophe of Death having reached her Ears, but no Certainty of who it was that was ſlain. This charming Woman flew to my Arms, and claſping me round the Neck, almoſt ſtifled me in her Embraces, for Joy at the Sight of me alive, and returned again; for ſhe had

had heard, that it was believed I w
of the Slain. I gave her an Acco
all that had happened, and that *G*
was killed by my Hand; and then
her, that I had received a ſlight Wo
my Arm, but in the Hurry had
felt no Pain from it; ſhe ſent direct
a Surgeon, who examining it, re
that it being but a Fleſh-Wound, an
ing pierced neither Vein or Arter
Blood being ſtaunched, would hea
itſelf; ſo that putting on a ſingle P
to prevent its Friction againſt my C
I felt no more of it.

La Bruce, cooling a little from he
ture, began to bluſh ſo for her paſ
duct, that ſhe begged me to pardo
for the Forwardneſs ſhe had ſhewn
Embraces, at my firſt Appearance t
but that my Preſence being more a
able to her than that of an Angel, l
would not be confined to Modes and
monies. O, *La Bruce*, ſaid I, (ex

her Conduct) that Expreſſion of your Affection, is ſo far from demanding Pardon for its Exceſs (as you are pleaſed to term it) that it ſhall never be remembered by me, ſave in Gratitude. But it was now high Time to retire, for the Repoſe both of Body and Mind, after ſo great a Fatigue as I had undergone that Evening.

Upon ſtating the Facts of my Caſe, the next Day, before his Excellency and the Council, I was acquitted with Applauſe; and ſeparately complimented by every preſent Member, upon my fortunate Eſcape. They highly condemned *Gomarez* for his Raſhneſs, and promiſed me all future Protection; but on no Account would permit me to poſtpone my Marriage (which I had offered to do till after *Gomarez*'s Funeral) for they inſiſted that tho' a Member of their Body, yet having behaved in ſo unbecoming a Manner, no Regard was due from them to his Memory. As for the poor Servant, being unwilling that any

any more Blood ſhould be ſhed on my
count; at my humble Requeſt, he
pardoned.

My Marriage with *La Bruce* being c
ſummated, we remained with the Fact
in the moſt agreable Harmony; but wh
we were enjoying ourſelves under this
curity, we received Advice, that a M
ſage was arriving from *Abluffcar*, to
mand the Delivery of me into his Ha
This not only ſtruck myſelf and Wife
a terrible Conſternation, but alſo alarm
the whole Factory, from the ill Co
quences that this Affair might be atten
with.

They would by no Means condeſc
to deliver me up, to whom they had
luntarily afforded both their Protection
Regard; nor did they chuſe to draw u
themſelves *Abluffcar*'s Reſentment:
the Meſſengers not being yet arrived
Council was convened, at which I was

ſi

ſired to be preſent. Here they expreſſed their Concern for my Situation, and the Inclination they had for keeping fair with *Abluffcar*; and as the only Means of preſerving me, with Security to themſelves, propoſed my embarking on Board a ſmall coaſting Veſſel, then in the River, and retiring to another *Portugueze* Settlement, about ſixty Leagues to the Southward, to whom they would give me a Recommendation.

I was ſo truly ſenſible of their Friendſhip, and of the Neceſſity of the Meaſures they had propoſed for my Safety, that having rendered them all due Acknowledgements for their paſt and preſent Favours to me, I immediately embarked for my Voyage, rejoicing to think, that I ſhould then be freed from all further Danger. We were ſo indeed from *Abluffcar*; but how vain are the Projects of Man!

My

My Wife and I, from the Moment we firſt went on Board, had been bleſſing our happy Situation; imagining it to have been the moſt lucky Turn that our Affairs were capable of taking, when the Reſolution paſſed the Council, for diſmiſſing us from the Factory; not only out of the Reach of *Abluffcar*, but that of a Relation of *Gomarez*, a Writer to the Factory, who had dropped Speeches of the hard Fate of his Kinſman, (and who, as we had been informed, reſented the Behaviour of the Council, in ſo ſlightly paſſing over his Kinſman's Death) and of whom we had been privately adviſed to beware; but now, we imagined, that we were not only on our Way Homewards, but alſo abſolutely out of the Reach of his Deſigns againſt us too.

Whilſt we were one Day recapitulating our Affairs, and congratulating each other upon the felicitous Turn they had taken, and ſailing ſmoothly before the Wind; about

about the third Day from our quitting the River, our Captain eſpied a Sail, ſomewhat to Windward, crouding after us with all her Canvaſs out. Having taken his Glaſs to reconnoitre her, he liked her worſe than before, and would have run for Land, which he judged to lie about twenty Leagues to our Right; but the Wind ſhifting a little, ſtill kept him from his Purpoſe; by which Means, the chacing Veſſel had gained upon us conſiderably. In ſhort, in a few Hours after, the Maſter was ſatisfied that ſhe was a Pyrate Sloop, and that we, having no ſufficient Means of Defence againſt her, ſhould be compelled to ſubmit.

This was heavy News to myſelf and Wife, when we conſidered that a Separation would probably enſue; for that we ſhould both become Slaves, and poſſibly in different Countries; our Effects, which were very conſiderable, would be plundered, and ourſelves, from thenceforth, reduced

duced to no further Eſtimation among Mankind, than for the bare Price which we ſhould produce, as Cattle in a Market.

I took my Leave of my Wife, aſſuring her, that my Determination was to die fighting; for that I could never ſurvive the Loſs of her, together with my Effects and Liberty; and tho' Reſiſtance ſhould produce no other Effect in the general to us; yet, as it would procure Death, falling that Way in Defence of ones Liberty and Property, would be far preferable to a Violence committed by ones own Hand; for that, I told her, muſt otherwiſe be my Caſe.

She was ſo far from Dejection, at the Thoughts of loſing me, that ſhe applauded my Reſolution; and tho' her Efforts could at beſt, ſhe ſaid, prove but faint, and of little Service, ſhe would not fail to fall by me; but that, what ſhe trembled

the

he moſt at was, leſt her Sex ſhould expoſe her to Abuſes, and Indignities from the Crew, and begged me to enquire, whether I could not procure her a ſpare Sailor's Habit, that ſhe might but appear like the reſt of us, and then, let what would be our Fate, ſhe ſhould ſubmit with Temper.

I procured her a ſpare Dreſs of the Maſters of the Veſſel, which ſhe had but juſt Time to appear in, before the Pyrate came up with us, we being prepared, as well as we could, to receive her.

She did not appear to be that formidable Veſſel, upon her Arrival, that we had taken her for; but out-numbered us in Hands, three to one; for ſhe had thirty-ſeven, and we but thirteen, myſelf, Wife, and *Malack* included. We had ſome good Cannon on Board; and ſome Swivel-Guns on Deck, with ſmall Arms ſufficient; but then we wanted a Supply of Powder, which rendered our Ordnance ineffectual.

In

In this Condition, we maintained a Fight till two of our Hands and the Maſter were killed, and two more wonnded; when in Spite of all my Efforts to the contrary, the Mate, who now ranked Captain, ſtruck the Colours.

The Privateer boarded us directly, ſecured us, rummaged the Veſſel, (in which there was nothing worth carrying off but my Treaſure) and ſhipping ſuch of us whoſe Cloaths were worth exchanging for their own, prepared to carry us into *Madagaſcar*, under Conduct of ſuch of their own Crew as they had put on Board of us.

There were ten of us poor Priſoners, with the two wounded Men, who ſpent the firſt Night moſt diſconſolately, in the Place of our Confinement; but the next Day, the Pyrate Veſſel coming along-ſide of us, we were removed into her; when we firſt underſtood, that the Pyrates, judg-

ing

ng ours to be the cleaner and tighter Veſ-
el, (their own being crazy and very foul)
iad formed a Deſign of cruizing in her,
ind of ſending their own Home with
is.

They left us under Sail for *Madagaſcar*;
out on the fourth Night, about Midnight,
here aroſe ſuch an Hurricane at South-
Weſt, that the nine Hands, which they
had left on Board us, were in no Shape
anſwerable to the Demands of the Ship;
when, fearing every Moment that they
ſhould periſh, they were compelled, for
their own Security, to releaſe five of us
Priſoners, to aſſiſt them in weathering this
Storm, of which Number, *Malack* and
myſelf were two.

Malack and I knew but little of the
Matter; but our three Fellow-Sailors were
moſt expert at the Buſineſs. The Main-
Sail, which was ſpread at the Commence-
ment of the Tempeſt, ſo ſwayed the Ship
about,

about, tho' it was in great Measur
from its Stays, that we feared it
have overſet us; for the Fury of the
ſo beat it againſt the Rigging, tha
Pyrates were afraid of mounting the Sh
to cut down, or furl it up; which o
our Hands obſerving, and that with
the Veſſel muſt be over, offered h
upon that Duty, whilſt the reſt were
pied about other Things.

I obſerving the Fellow's Courage
in great Hopes that he would prove
per Inſtrument for my Purpoſe, whic
to become Maſters of the Veſſel our
(if poſſible) but having no other Me
conveying my Intent to him, I foll
him up to the round Top, regardl
the Danger, and there communicate
Deſign to him. He readily appr
it, told me, that then he would n
down the Sail, but only laſh her t
Maſt, that ſhe might become ſervi
to us, in caſe of Succeſs. I replied,

I would engage for the Black, who was a brave Fellow, and that if he could prevail on the other two Sailors, we would take all Advantages of ſurpriſing the Crew, and either murder, or throw them over Board.

I deſcended then to the Deck, and gave *Malack* his Inſtructions, with ſtrict Orders not to begin to act, till he ſhould obſerve myſelf, and the Sailors to hollow, this being the Token we had agreed upon.

When the *Portugueze* had deſcended, and cheared his Companions, we began our Operation, by two of us running to the Helm, and calling out that the Ship was ſplitting. This Cry brought all the Pyrates forward to them, when the remaining three of us ſeizing ſome Arms which lay on the Deck, we hollowed; then two of us with Piſtols, one with an Handſpike, and the two who were with the Pyrates turning upon them, and in the Scuffle diſ-

arming ſome of them, we drove them b
us with ſuch incredible Fury, that the
Remains of Courage which the Storm
ſtill left them, entirely ſunk and aban
ed them; for three of them were l
out-right, and one had jumped over-b
at the firſt Onſet.

We, being now reduced to an e
Number on both Sides (tho' two of t
were grievouſly wounded) immedi
chained them ſeparately to the Maſts,
other Parts of the Ship, that they migh
cabal together; and releaſing our Co
nions, who as yet were ignorant of
Proceedings on Deck, we took upon
ſelves the Command of the Veſſel,
made the *Portugueze*, to whom I had
diſcovered my Scheme, Captain of
by which Time, Day beginning to b
the Wind had conſiderably abated.

CH.

CHAP. XV.

Know little of Navigation. Sail Eaſtward. Set the Crew on Shore. Archer *relates his Story. Short Allowance. Diſtreſſed for Food. Horrid Cataſtrophe. Behead and pickle one of the Crew. Are greatly cheared at it. Reflections on over-eating.*

NO ſooner had we made ourſelves Maſters of the Veſſel, ſecured the Priſoners, and all was Peace again, than we held a Conſultation, what Courſe to ſteer, not only to avoid the Pyrate, but to eſcape being met by any Veſſel from *Madagaſcar*. We were none of us great Connoiſſeurs at the Inſtruments on Board; but as we obſerved the Pyrate to coaſt away Northward, we reſolved to ſtretch over to South-Eaſtward, in Hopes of reaching ſome known Shore, or meeting with ſome friendly Ship to take us in. This Courſe therefore we took, and in about a Week's

Sailing, paſſing by a ſmall Iſland, we turned our Priſoners on Shore; but having very little Proviſion on Board, we could not afford them above enough for one Meal or two.

I had obſerved one of the Priſoners, a young likely Fellow, to lament himſelf during his whole Confinement; but upon our ſhipping them off to the Iſland, he broke out into Weeping, deploring his hard Fate, in falling into the Hands of the curſed Crew that he had belonged to; begging, by all Means, that he might be permitted to ſtay on Board with us, engaging to be faithful and true to us, to the laſt; for that now he durſt publiſh his Mind, he had much rather we ſhould throw him over-board, than ſet him on Shore in ſuch Cumpany.

This being uttered in *Engliſh*, I ſuſpected him to have been ſome Captive-Hand, compelled to take on with the Pyrates, and granted

granted his Requeſt, landing only the other four Pyrates on the Iſland.

Our whole Crew were equally acquainted with the Seas we were in, as myſelf; but we ſtill puſhing South-Eaſtward, during our Paſſage, I informed myſelf, by what Means the young Fellow fell in with the Pyrates. He told me, his Name was *Peter Archer*, that he was of *Coventry*, that he entered before the Maſt, in the *Eaſt-India* Service, for *Bombay*; that himſelf, and ſix more, putting into an Iſland for Water, were taken by the Pyrates, in their Return to the Ship, where being ſo miſerably treated, and almoſt ſtarved; rather than ſubject themſelves to the Injuries they ſuffered, they entered into the Pyrates Service. He had been there ſix Years, he ſaid, in conſtant Hope, by ſome Means or other, of getting free from them; but never had the leaſt Opportunity till now. He added, that it was the greateſt Pleaſure in Life, when we firſt began to at-

tempt our Liberty, and that he was ſure, if any one took Notice of his Conduct upon their firſt Surprize, he would acquit him of raiſing an Hand againſt us; this ſome of our Hands confirming, I demanded, why he did not then ſooner make himſelf known to us, and the Circumſtances he was in with the Crew? He replied, becauſe one or other of them would have murdered him; till they being in the Boat, he perceived himſelf out of Danger.

Archer delivered his Story with ſuch an Air of Sincerity, that giving Credence to him, and imagining him to be beſt acquainted with the Seas we were in, we took him into Confidence, and committed the Guidance of the Veſſel, in great Meaſure to him; but neither underſtood he more of Navigation than lay within the Sphere of our Compaſs; for that we ſteered Eaſterly we were certain, but in what Latitude we were, was a Difficulty we could none of us determine; however, by ſteer-

ſteering in the ſame Courſe, he hoped ſoon to make Land.

Our Wind now ſlackening upon us, and what little there was being in the Teeth of our Purpoſe, we made little or no Way, but inclined ſtill more and more to the South; when our Proviſion being near ſpent, we fell into ſhort Allowance, and in a Week or ten Days more, even that was conſumed. We had ſtill ſome Water left, but were obliged to be ſparing even of that, tho' it was ſo extremely hot, that we were never free from Drought, even while the Liquor was in our Throats. It held out, however, till we had boiled down all the Leather in the Ship to a Jelly, and eaten it, and every the vileſt Vermin we could come at.

In this diſmal Situation, we were ſo weak, we could ſcarce crawl the Deck; when miſſing one of our Hands, we ſuſpected that he muſt have died in the Hold;

for upon Enquiry, it was ſome Days
any of us had ſeen him. I then pro
to make a Search for him, which
moſt of us had agreed to, one of the
tugueze ſeeming very uneaſy, told us,
on ſuch a Night, he being then on W
with the abſent Man, believed that h
over-board; he hearing a violent Flo
in the Water: But running to the I
and ſeeing nothing of him, he did
chuſe to make any Words of it, l
ſhould be ſuſpected that he had th
him in.

We all blamed him for concealing
long, verily believing, that he had re
the Truth; but a Day or two afterw
we ſmelt ſuch a Stink, as almoſt poi
us, and imagining it to have proce
from the Bilge-water in the Hold, we
our Pumps to extract it, as well a
Strength would permit; but the F
voided but little, and that, far from l
tainted with any ſuch like Smell, a

perceived. This put us upon further Search into the Cauſe, when to our unſpeakable Horror, we diſcovered the Remains of the Body of the poor abſent Sailor, ſtowed into an empty Water-Caſk, with the Head beaten in; but Abundance of Slices had been cut from the moſt fleſhy Parts of him.

This unexpected Sight ſtruck ſuch Aſtoniſhment into us all, that we had enough to do to recover the Deck again: Nay, our Conſternation was ſo great, as even to prevent our forming ſuch Reſolves, or proceeding to ſuch Actions as were conducive to the Diſcovery of the infamous Author of the Barbarity; till recollecting ourſelves a little, I deſired that all Hands might be called upon Deck, when our Number was incompleat, by one Man. Him we called by Name, but no one anſwering, we, upon Search, found him behind ſome Goods in the Hold.

Upon demanding what he knew of the murdered Man, he (almoſt ready to ſink into the Deck with Terror) fell on his Knees, and aſking Pardon firſt of Heaven, and then of the whole Crew, declared himſelf guilty of the Death of his Fellow-Sailor, and that he had diſpoſed of the Body where we had found it; but added, that what he had done he was neceſſitated to, for meer Hunger: That Life was ſweet, and that no longer able to endure the cruciating Pangs of his Appetite, he firſt knocked him down, and then conveying him into the Caſk, cut his Throat, and had ever ſince ſubſiſted upon his Fleſh.

The Fellow was in ſuch an Agony during the whole Relation, that it was ſcarce to be believed, he could have finiſhed it. He confeſſed himſelf unworthy of Life, and begged it of us as a Favour to releaſe him from it; alledging, that he would not ſuſtain the like inward Torment for three Days more, to obtain Poſſeſſion

of

of the whole Globe; ſtill urging, that Hunger was a ſevere Thing, and therefore hoped for Mercy.

We ordered him into Confinement, till we had conferred together upon his Crime, and had prepared his Sentence. We could have no Thoughts of ſuffering him to live, after ſuch a Deed, leſt others might be encouraged to perpetrate the like Villainy, tho' we even envied him the Repaſt he had made on the Body. At length, after ſeveral Opinions, and Puniſhments propoſed, our Captain (as we called him) deſired to be heard; when every one paying Attention, he firſt ſet before us the extreme Hardſhips of our Circumſtances, and the Neceſſity we lay under of preſerving Life, ſo long as it was in our Power, tho' by Means not ſtrictly juſtifiable.

He declared, it was his Opinion, that the Delinquent had juſtly forfeited his Life, for daring to take that of another, without

without the joint Concurrence of the whole Body, and giving the deceaſed an equal Chance with the reſt; for he allowed, that in the Exigency we were drove to, it had been held agreeable to right Reaſon, and good Policy, that one ſhould rather be ſacrificed, than that all ſhould inevitably periſh; therefore, added he, as this Offender hath juſtly forfeited his Life to the Community, my Opinion is that he dies; and that the moſt Benefit may redound his from Death, let him be ſlain in ſuch a Manner, as that we may all reap the Advantage of his Fleſh, for our neceſſary Support. He is a luſty Fellow, and by ſparing Meals, may laſt us ſome Time. Let what is not abſolutely neceſſary for our preſent Support be pickled up, and uſed moderately; we have Water ſtill left, and Providence (e'er his Body is conſumed) may relieve us by ſome other Means, or it is my Opinion, (and I ſhall readily offer myſelf to the Lot with you all) that another of us muſt be offered, to the Preſervation of the Crew.

By

By how much the more we were diſtreſſed under our preſent Calamity, by ſo much the more were we elevated, at the pleaſing Proſpect of ſuch ample Proviſion as ſeemed to offer for our Relief; for the Quality weighed but little with our Senſes, ſo that the Quantity would but ſuffice: Nay, even my Wife, tender as ſhe was by Nature, had not the leaſt Syllable to offer in Arreſt of the Sentence, or Diſpoſal of the Priſoner, according to our Leader's Motion; nor was the Execution ſooner voted, than performed, by beheading the Criminal; and in leſs than twenty Minutes we had each of us (without the leaſt Shew of Remorſe at the Action) devoured a Part of the Body, raw as it was: Nay, ſo violent were we in our Gratification, that neither by foul Means or fair, were we to be reſtrained from glutting ourſelves with ſo delicious a Morſel; till our Captain drawing his Cutlaſs, and covering the Remains of the Body, declared, that he would cleave down the next Man that offered to touch

touch a Mouthful more; then ſending f an Ax, he chopped it to Pieces on t Deck, and having ſalted it, kept it und Lock for further Uſe.

Tho' this Scheme had paſſed withc the leaſt Pretence to Pity from any one, f the Horror of the Fact; yet it paſſed r without Grumblings for that they w not allowed larger Portions; this c Leader perceiving, declared, that to beſt of his Ability, he had acted for th own Benefits; as firſt, by overchargi themſelves, they would have run the H zard of Sickneſs; and by the Wa made of the Proviſion, have the ſoo reduced one of themſelves to the l Circumſtances with the Deceaſed: T we fed not now to pamper our unruly A petites, but meerly for the due Suſtentati of our Beings, which were to be preſer by a little, as long perhaps, and long than by much, tho' not ſo agreeab

Th

us, his Judgment, by reducing the Ar-
ment to our own Case, reclaimed at
t, each dissenting Voice to an Acquiesc-
e.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVI.

Reflections on the Inordinacy of the human Paſſions. Captain propoſes Lots who ſhall die for the Reſt. Fell upon La Bruce. *Diſtreſs of the Author. Struggles at parting. Relieved by the Capture of a large Fiſh. Deſcription of it. Eſpy a Sail. The* Dutchman *relieves the Crew. Takes the Author,* La Bruce, *and* Malack *on Board.*

IT is ſurpriſing to what Inordinacy the Affections of Mankind will run, upon the ſuddeneſt Alteration of their Circumſtances in Life. We, who were for ſeveral Days paſt all Lamentation, Wailing, and Deſpair, to the greateſt Exceſs imaginable; having now a Store, tho' but a ſmall one, of Proviſion before-hand, and having received ſo reaſonable a Refreſhment from the laſt Meal, failed not of expreſſing it, by the moſt viſible Tokens of

of our Countenances and Actions, even in ſuch Manner, as if no Fear of further Want was to ſucceed. We, I ſay, who had for ſome Time been driven juſt at the Mercy of the Wind and Waves, regardleſs of what became of us, and contributing not the leaſt Means for our own Aſſiſtance, having received new Life and Vigour, conſulted the Compaſs, rehandled our Tackling, and proceeded with that Alacrity in our Voyage, as if no Evil had hitherto befallen us; and our Allowance was daily delivered to us, as regular as heretofore. But lo! Time, the Conſumer of all Things, wore out our Hopes of Relief with our Food; and the laſt Morſel being ſparingly ſwallowed down, we returned to our wonted Dejection and Miſery again.

After two whole Days and Nights abſolute faſt, our Captain (who by the Authority we had inveſted him with, took upon him to be our Spokeſman) called us all together into the Cabin, where he told us, that

that the Deſpair which prevailed in each of our Countenances, ſeemed to preſage ſome future Event, as diſmal as that which had lately happened; for that though we were Men; yet our Diſtreſſes might urge us to the Commiſſion of ſome deteſtable Act againſt the Lives of each other; therefore, as there was now a Neceſſity, that the whole Crew muſt either be ſupplied, or ſoon periſh; and as no Relief appeared, but from the Death of one of us for the Support of the reſt; he was ready to put it to the Lot with us, who ſhould be the Sufferer.

"Gentlemen, ſaid he, let not the taken Perſon complain of his Fate; for I'll promiſe you, ſhould it fortune to be myſelf, I ſhall readily ſubmit to the Stroke, and rejoice in my laſt Moments, at the happy Diſpoſal of my Corpſe, if it may, in the Event, prove but the Redemption of any one Soul amongſt you, from the Dread of our preſent Calamity. We are to conſider, that

that one, or all, muſt fall; and ſhould it prove this, we are all in the ſame Predicament. Shall we not then heartily concur in each others Relief, where each has the Chance of Surviving?"

There being no Alternative, we all ſlowly conſented, and the Lots were caſt; when, O horrible! Can I utter it! My dear, my loving Wife, was marked out for the Victim. Had it been myſelf, I had gloried in it; but could not contain my Temper at the Thought of her ſuffering in this Manner. She received her Doom with a Smile, and taking me by the Hand, "Mr. *Bingfield*, ſaid ſhe, farewell. How "happy were I, to be the Inſtrument of "prolonging your Life, but for a Day; "yet Heaven only knows, that it will not "be for Years to come."

My Paſſions were not then ſo alert as they had been; but yet, her Words were as ten thouſand Daggers ſheathed in my Soul.

Soul. I beheld, with Trembling, eac
around me, greedy for Feaſting upo
lovely Creature, who might have g
the Bed of the proudeſt Monarch
grudging me the Parley of a ſhort p
Word with her. "No, ſaid I,
"deareſt *La Bruce*, the Lot is falle
"me, not you; for can you im
"that I, who have ſo often glov
"the Embraces of thoſe lovely L
"can ſubmit to nouriſh my mortal l
"with that Repaſt Heaven has pro
"for the Soul? No, my Love, t
"thou art Food for Angels only
"Huſband for Mankind. O may
"ver again come to thy Turn, till
"vidence ſhall ſend Help to the Cr

Then ſnatching up a Cutlaſs that l
I was about to plunge it into my
Breaſt; which ſhe ſuſpecting, inter
claſped me in her Arms, and joinin
Body cloſe to mine; "Now ſtrike, ſai
that Arm's of Force to find its Way

both; for but through mine, ſhall it ever reach thy Blood. No, either let me fall, by Lot my Due, or we'll together make one tragic Exit.''

I was ſenſible that ſhe would not permit me to fall alone in Lieu of her, and was about to ſtrike; but obſerving that our paſſionate Scene drew Tears from each Beholder, and that they rather ſoftened into Compaſſion for us, I with-held my Hand a Moment, further to urge my Requeſt for ſparing her own Life; when one of the Crew, who (melted with our Diſtreſs) had turned his Head from the approaching Spectacle, cried out, a Fiſh! a Fiſh! This Sound drew every Eye to the Gunnell, and each Invention was on the Stretch, how to obtain the Prize; for though it floated it was not Dead; but obſerving that notwithſtanding all its Endeavours, it could not ſink, they ſtruck a barbed Iron into its Body, and with the Help of our Tackle drew it on Board, where it appeared

peared ſo lively, that till they had cautiouſly chopped off about three Foot from its Tail, happy was he that ſtood furtheſt from its Reach. It was about ſixteen Feet long, and two Yards and a Half round the Girt.

This noble Acqueſt ſent our Captain to me, with Exceſs of Joy in his Countenance. "Sir, ſaid he, reſtrain your Sorrow for your Lady; Providence hath preſerved you for each other by this moſt fortunate Accident, whereon I hope, we ſhall be able to ſubſiſt, till the ſame wiſe Hand will pleaſe otherwiſe to diſpoſe of us. At leaſt, we have a Reprieve from further immediate Bloodſhed."

We then went with him to the Fiſh, at the further End of the Deck; but it had been ſo diſabled by the Loſs of its Tail, that it was altogether motionleſs. So that with a Blow or two on the Head with the

Butt

Butt of the Axe, they quite diſpatched it. Whilſt the Crew were thus employed, my Wife and I, being truly ſenſible to what Author we owed the Preſervation of both our Beings, retiring into the Cabin, vented our Praiſes in the moſt exalted Strains of Gratitude to our merciful Benefactor.

At our Return to the Deck, they had juſt ript up the Belly of the Fiſh, when its Intrails burſt out, and with them as fair and large a Liver, as ever I ſaw extracted from an Ox; but ſomewhat preſenting monſtrous large, and hard in its Paunch, we laid open his Under-jaws quite to the Throat, to come at the Entrance of it; when we diſcovered what had created it ſuch Pain as to prevent its ſinking: It was a large Fiſh which it had ſwallowed, Tail foremoſt, whoſe Gills, having each a ſharp Spike next the Shoulder, they ſpreading as the Head approached to the Gullet of the Devourer, had hooked themſelves into each Side of the Creature's Throat, and prevented

prevented the Head from following the reſt of the Body, which almoſt choaked the great Fiſh.

Here we had a double Prize; for the ſmaller Fiſh, upon taking it out Whole, and almoſt yet alive, was as much as one Man could handle, and muſt at leaſt have weighed Half an Hundred Weight, the great one weighing little (if any Thing) leſs than a Quarter of a Ton. We went all Hands to work upon the ſmall Fiſh firſt, which being but light Diet, we feaſted upon without Controul, devouring very near Half of it; but we had much better have been reſtrained, as we were before: for they who had eaten moſt, had leaſt in their Stomachs before Night, and were moreover ſo ſick, with the Diſcharge, that they heartily repented of their Folly.

We ſalted down ſeveral Caſks of this Fiſh, which laſted us a great while, till we had repaired all our Tackle, and had got-

ten

ten into Sailing Order again; but we had not been many Days before the Wind, e'er we ſpied a Sail, which not bearing towards us, we fired a Gun, and then another, as Signals of our Diſtreſs, and at Length were anſwered, and ſhe bore down right upon us.

Now were our Hearts all Lightſomneſs and Joy, no further Proſpect of Slaughter before our Eyes; and as our Fiſh had not only recruited our Fleſh, but Spirits, we puſhed boldly up to meet her. We hailed her, enquiring of what Country: She anſwered, of *Holland*. Whither bound? To *Java*. Then ſtating our Caſe, we begged that they would relieve us, having been almoſt ſtarved.

The *Dutchman* ſhewed no Backwardneſs in aſſiſting us, but ſeeing ſo many of us, with a good tight Ship under us, wondred we ſhould have been ſo long from Port, when ſeveral were within fifty Leagues of

us; till we informed him the Reaſon of our being there, and our Neſcience in Maritime Obſervations; he then offering to direct our future Courſe, and to give us Water to help out for the Remainder of our Voyage, told us, that we muſt ſhift for ourſelves.

The *Portugueze* Sailors were well enough content with the *Dutchman*'s Civility, they being deſirous of getting Home as ſoon as poſſible; but for my Part, I had rather been landed on ſome deſolate Iſland, than to have returned with them: So that I deſired the Skipper to receive myſelf, my Wife and Servant on Board, and that I would gratefully ſatisfy him for our Paſſage, not in the leaſt concerning myſelf whither he was going to.

The Skipper no ſooner ſmelt a Reward coming, then he ſnapt at us for his Paſſengers; when quitting the *Portugueze*, and wiſhing them a ſafe Voyage, we

we went on Board him, taking our Treasure with us; for the Pyrates, on quitting their own Vessel for ours, had left behind them the Goods they had before plundered us of.

CHAP. XVII.

Relation of an Adventure of the Captain's. Took up a black Woman many Leagues at Sea. Produces her. She proves Malack's *Miſtreſs. Tokens of their Affection. He recounts her Story. Agree never to leave the Author.*

HAVING ſo happily freed ourſelves from our ſtarving Companions, and gotten on Board a well-ſupplied Veſſel again, my Wife and I enjoyed ourſelves like reaſonable Creatures once more, having great Deference paid us by the Captain, to whom, at Times, we gave an Account of ſome of our Adventures, as he alſo gave us of ſeveral Occurrences, which in his Sea-faring Way of Life, at Times, had befallen him; but ſays he, I had an exceeding odd Accident happened to me about a Month ago; as I was ſailing many Leagues from Port, ſome of my Men reported,

ported, that they ſaw the Head of ſome Creature (as they took it for) above Water, at a Diſtance from the Ship, which they ſuppoſed muſt either be that of a Fiſh, or ſome other Sea Animal; for that they could viſibly perceive it to move, deſiring me to take my Glaſs, and obſerve it. I did ſo, but it was a good Space before I had made out what it ſhould be; tho', as they ſaid, it was plainly in Motion, and that rather obliquely, from the Ship; till taking another Look, I plainly diſcerned ſomewhat like Eyes; but the Dazzle of the Water was ſo great, that I could not be poſitive. However, as it was but fetching a ſmall Compaſs that would clear it up to me, I ordered the Helm a-Weather, and drove round it.

On my nearer Advance, it appeared by the Head and Face to be a Negroe ſwimming; but what, ſays I, can poſſibly have brought him to this Diſtance from Land? For I could ſee no Boat or Canoe near;

Then, What ſhould be the Reaſon of avoiding the Ship thus? For the v Noiſe of our Sails, and the Daſh of Waters, muſt have reached his Ears his Eyes have not gained a Sight of Being come within fifty Yards of him hollowed out, when, tho' he turned Head and ſaw us, he ſtill keeping Way, I manned out my Boat with ei Hands to take him; but he (as we t him to be) dived backwards and forw under the Boat, and ſhewed great Re tance, employing every Means that could to avoid us; till at laſt, my M catching her, (for it was a young Wom brought her on Board to me. I had into my Cabin, uſed her gently, did ev Manner of Thing in my Power to pl her, offered her Victuals, Wine, Sw meats; but all the Art that ever I cc uſe, would not make her in the leaſt t table, or compliant to any Thing I p poſed to her. Inſomuch, that I conceived a Notion of her being a Sav

Sea Monſter, and not a reaſonable Creature, or one of the Human Species; notwithſtanding her Similitude to us.

The Captain having roufed our Curioſity, I deſired to know whether ſhe was living, or if he knew what was become of her? He replied, that ſhe was ſtill living, but choſe the darkeſt Receſſes, where he believed ſhe would confine herſelf till ſhe died, without Victuals or Drink, if he did not daily carry it to her, and by good Words, and obliging Behaviour, almoſt compel her to eat it; for he ſaid, that he had declared, it ſhould be Death to any of the Crew, even to converſe with, much more to offer her any Rudeneſs.

My Wife and I both longed to ſee this unaccountable Creature, that the Captain had given us ſuch a Deſcription of, and begged we might be favoured with a View of her; but, leſt it ſhould put my Wife to the Bluſh, I aſked him, Whether ſhe was ſtill naked as ever? He told me, No, for that he had given her a Napkin to tie round

her Middle; and that, ſaid he, was the only Thing ſhe ever ſeemed to be thankful for. The Captain adding further, that he often made her come up into his Cabin, giving her a Dram or a Glaſs of Wine, which ſhe would now readily accept; but ſo ſoon as ſhe had Opportunity, would ſneak off again, into the dark Corners; I deſired the Favour of him to fetch her.

When ſhe entered the Cabin, for the Captain drove her in before him, I was prodigiouſly pleaſed with her Appearance; for of the black Kind, I think I never beheld any Thing ſo beautiful, ſo ſtrait, well proportioned, and gracefull in my whole Life. We would have had her to ſit down, but could no Ways perſuade her to it; for ſhe was in Pain to be gone again; but the Captain had locked the Door. We gave her a Glaſs of Punch, which ſhe drank, and held me out the Glaſs to take from her; when having viewed her with Delight for ſome Time, and recollecting ſome few Words

Words that *Malack* had uſed when I firſt knew him; I, in his Dialect, aſked her, how ſhe did, being deſirous of Satisfaction, whether ſhe knew the Uſe of Speech. She ſeemed a little brighter upon my aſking that Queſtion, and muttered ſomething, but I could not comprehend what.

It then recurring to my Mind, that poſſibly *Malack* and ſhe might underſtand each other; I told my Wife, that I would call *Malack*; which Word I had no ſooner uttered, than ſhe ran herHead in my Face, and laying her Hand on mine, repeated *Malack*, *Malack*, two or three Times; but no more like my pronouncing of the ſame Word, than had a Dog barked ſomewhat like it. The Captain imagining by her Earneſtneſs, that ſhe meant me ſome Miſchief, aroſe to make her deſiſt; when I deſired him to be eaſy, for that I was under no Apprehenſion of Ill from her; then ſtepping to the Cabin Door, and calling out *Malack*, her Eyes glowed like Coals of

Fire, and ſhe looked with Exceſs of Pleaſure on me; inſomuch, that the Captain, who had never before ſeen any Thing like it, was quite amazed: But no ſooner had *Malack* ſet Foot within the Door, than ſhe flew at him, and he at her, clinging round each others Neck, kiſſing and claſping each other, and there was ſuch a Clatter and Outcry in their Language between them, that to us Spectators, it was far the moſt agreeable Entertainment we had ever beheld; nor were they to be parted, by any Thing that we could ſay to them: So that finding them in ſuch cloſe Engagement and Conference, my Wife judged it but Decent for us to quit the Room, and beckoning the Captain out, we left them together for near an Hour.

We ſat down upon the Deck, conſidering, whence all this Joy to theſe two poor Creatures could ariſe; for ſurely, ſaid I, this cannot be the Miſtreſs *Malack* hath ſo often mentioned. The Captain then enquiring

quiring where I picked up *Malack*, I replied, that I knew not; but gave him the Hiſtory of my delivering him, juſt before he was to have been ſlaughtered. He rereplied, that then it muſt be on ſome of the unfrequented Iſlands, to which I agreed that it was; and that ſurely there had never lived a more truſty, faithful, and loving Fellow in all the World; that he had ſtood me in the Stead of Father, Brother, Friend and Servant; and my Wife adding, that ſhe verily believed, he would now lay down his Life to preſerve either of ours, the Captain acknowledged it to be ſo valuable a Character, that few Perſons were to be found now a Days amongſt Chriſtians, ſo replete with Gratitude.

When we had chatted away near an Hour, neither *Malack* or his Lady appearing, the Captain and I went ſoftly to the Cabin Door, to ſee if they were not aſleep, for we heard not the leaſt Stir; but ſo far were they from it, that they were both

ſtill

ſtill in their former Employment, with their Faces neſtling in each others Breaſts, juſt as we had left them; nor when there Love-fit would have concluded, was it very eaſy to have gueſſed, had not we ſtept in and interrupted them.

Malack, ſaid I, Who have you met with here, that you rejoice to ſee ſo? O Neve, ſays he, my dear *Hormunka*, that I left behind me when I went to die, and you freed me. O my dear *Hormunka*, then he kiſſed her again. But how came it to paſs, ſaid I, that the Captain ſhould find her in the Sea, at ſuch a Diſtance from Land? O Neve, replied *Malack*, there is the charming *Hormunka*; Where you meet ſo good, ſo kind, ſo loving *Hormunka*? O, me tell you, me tell you whole all. Hold a little, ſaid I, let me call your Neis; O, ay, ſhe hear all the loving *Hormunka*, ſaid *Malack*.

I then

I then giving my Wife a Call, "My Dear, ſaid I, *Malack* has met with his Miſtreſs and is going to give an Account how ſhe came to be out at Sea, when the Captain took her up; now, as I doubt not the Agreeableneſs of that Entertainment to you, I have called you, to partake the Pleaſure of it with me."

I ſhall give you here *Malack*'s Hiſtory of his Lady, in his own Words in *Engliſh*; who, after kiſſing her again and again, and piercing her with his Eyes like Darts, through and through, began. "When "poor *Malack* was take Priſoner in de "Wars, fighting for his Broder, King "of *Barka*, he left de ever dere *Hormun-* "*ka* be-hind im, he love her, ſhe love "him, long, long Time, derely, derely. "O! how could *Malack* leave *Hormunka!* "But he muſt die, muſt feſte Enemies. "You, Neve, make me free Man. Now "dere *Hormunka* was go to die, ſhe ſay. "O dere *Hormunka!* wen ſhe here me die,

" die, and den tink me ded. Her Fader, " great Lord, make her great Sweet- " heart, Great Man. She no marry, ſhe " no marry, ſhe die wid *Malack*; *Ma-* " *lack* die, ſhe no live. She linger, ſhe " pine, ſhe go die, ſhe go no Broad. " She he-re from her Maid, her Sweet- " heart tell her, *Malack* no kill, but live. " De great Man beat *Malack* Enemy, " ſave *Malack*.

" O dere *Hornumka!* She ſee him, " he ſay ſame Ting, ſwear ſame Ting, " ſaw ſame Ting, wid own Eyes: Was " like to die dere. Tell me, *Hormunka* " ſay, we-re *Malack* live? He ſay, we-re. " ſhe fly to de Sea, ſhe ſwim, and ſwim, " ſhe find no Land, till he-re ſhe find " *Malack*; O, my De-re *Hormunka!*

Malack's Story, tho' but ſhort, was very expreſſive, and delivered in ſuch an Extaſy, that we could no Ways avoid ſympathizing in his Joys; and poor *Hormunka*, who

who was now become a converſable Creature, appeared as pleaſant and agreeable a Companion, as ever I met with, (for *Malack* interpreted between us) and ſhe would rally and joke, with all the Freedom imaginable. My Wife ſtudied her Dialect, and taught her *Engliſh*, growing exceedingly delighted with her; but it was with the utmoſt Difficulty, that we could muſter up any Thing to cloath her with, that ſhe might look ſomewhat Womanly: At laſt, the Captain rummaged out an old Night-gown, which, with ſome Alterations, my Wife wrought up into a decent Garment, with which ſhe was exceedingly delighted.

I told *Malack*, that now he had met with his Miſtreſs, I ſuppoſed, ſhe would perſuade him to ſeek his own Country again; but he aſſured me, that he was ſo far from any Inclination to it, that whereever I was, their Duty would be to attend me, and hoped his Neſs would give *Hormunka* the Pleaſure of waiting her Commands.

mands. I replied, that we had led a very vague Life hitherto; but ſhould we ever be ſo happy as to attain the *Engliſh* Shore, I hoped we ſhould there be ſettled for the Remainder of our Days; and ſince they both deſired it, *Hormunka* and he ſhould never leave us.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIII.

Touch at one of the Spice-Iſlands. Captain ſends for Hormunka *on Shore. Sells her there. Leaves the Author and* Malack *on Shore. Carries off* La Bruce. *Author mad at being ſo tricked. Hires a Veſſel to ſail after her to* Malabar. *A Tempeſt the Night before he ſails. Author is raving for the Delay. Hear a Ship in Diſtreſs. Go on Board her. Finds his Wife. Bring the Ship to Port.*

WE were at this Time touching at one of the Spice-Iſlands, for a few Days; when the Captain, who had hitherto behaved very worthily, being on Shore, ſent his Boat to bring off *Hormunka* to him. The poor Creature was ſurprized at the Meſſage, not imagining what the Captain ſhould want with her on Shore, and alone too. She expreſſing her Concern to *Malack*, he informed me of the Orders, who

who was at as great a Loſs for the Reaſon of ſuch a Proceeding as *Malack* was; but the poor Man having promiſed to go with her, my Wife engaged me to be of the Party.

The Captain, on our Arrival, was abaſhed at the Sight of *Malack* and me; but having another Perſon in cloſe Conference with him, we walked careleſsly about till they ſhould have done. It was not long before I heard the Perſon in Diſcourſe with the Captain ſay, "Is not the Man to be diſpoſed of? I ſhould like him, he is a ſtrong-built Fellow." I could not conceive the Meaning of this; but it appeared to me, as if the Captain was certainly diſpoſing of the Negroes, at leaſt of the Woman. I had ſcarce formed my Conjecture into proper Mode, before he called *Hormunka*, and in my Hearing (taking her Hand, and delivering it to the Stranger) told her, ſhe muſt go with him.

The

The poor defenceleſs Creature, looked behind at me, and *Malack*, hanging back with all her Force, and not knowing what they were about to do with her, refuſed to follow him, who was drawing her along by the Hand. I could then refrain no longer, for *Malack* was already run to her Aſſiſtance, and had I not interpoſed, had certainly knocked the Purchaſer on the Head, his Paſſion grew ſo impetuous; but I ſoon, by a Word, quieting him, applied myſelf to the Stranger, deſiring to know the Meaning of his Violence to my Servant's Wife? "How! Sir, ſaid the Stran-"ger." "Yes Sir, replied I, my Ser-"vant's Wife. This Man has for many "Years been mine, and having been "abſent from his own Country, has met "with her, who was on her Travels to "ſeek him, and he being my Property, "all his is equally ſo too." The Gentlemen replied, that he wondered Captain *Ruyter* ſhould offer to impoſe upon him a diſputable Property; but as he had paid him

him an hundred Dollars for her, unleſs I could procure him a Return of his Money, he would by no Means part with her, for any Pretence of mine.

I then looked about for the Captain, but during our Debate, he had ſneaked off, and by this Time, having taken Boat, was got good Part of his Way to the Ship. This, I own, gave my Spirits a terrible Shock; ſo, thinks I, we are now finely tricked, indeed. The Captain will hoiſt Sail, and leave us all behind him: But then, what would become of my Wife? For ſhe muſt either ſuſtain his Inſults while on Board with him, or perhaps he may give her the Slip, upon ſome other Shore.

Whilſt theſe, and other ſuch like Cogitations were diſtracting my Brain, I begged the Gentleman to hollow after the Captain, to bring him back again; but he replied, that he had no further Buſineſs with him, having

having bought his Slave, and paid for her. I then uſed all the noiſy Means in my Power, for inclining the Captain to return; but he gave me the deaf Ear, and e'er long, he being arrived at the Ship, we ſaw her under Sail, ſteering off from the Shore.

I was at my Wits End for Madneſs, to think how I had been bit; and tho' I muſtered up all my Reſolution, could yet conclude upon nothing, that would afford me the leaſt Relief. To uſe Oppoſition or Force againſt the Perſon of a fair Purchaſer, would be a Raſhneſs inexcuſable, in a Country where we were unknown, nor likely to get off again; for the leaſt that we could expect was, to have every Arm againſt us.

Compoſing myſelf therefore, under my Misfortune, by the beſt Means in my Power, I applied to the Stranger in a friendly Manner, giving him to underſtand,

ſtand, that I had borne the Queen of *England*'s Commiſſion, that I had a Wife on Board the Captain, and Goods of great Value, which it ſeemed to me probable, that the Captain intended to defraud me of, at leaſt, if he meant no Injury to my Wife, which I ſcarce durſt venture to conceive, for the Horror it gave me. I told him, I was an *Engliſhman*, and that our State being at Amity with his, we ought to treat each other as Brethren, and not to prey one on the other. That could I by any Means follow the Captain, I had ſufficient Effects on Board, to make very ample Recompenſe, to any one who would aſſiſt me in recovering the Ship; and that I would be no Ways backward in my Gratitude; for I wanted not to diſtreſs the Man, but to recover my own Property. I then ſtated the Hardſhip I had undergone, in ſo moving a Manner to him, that obſerving me to behave like a Gentleman, he ſeemed much to compaſſionate me.

By

By this Time a Number of Perſons, of all Ranks, had collected themſelves about us, each anxious for hearing my Story, which, that I might give no Offence, I was obliged to repeat ſeveral Times over, ſtill offering a very handſome Gratuity to the Perſon who would carry me to *Java*, whither I aſſured them the Captain was bound. At length, a jolly young Fellow ſtanding by me, told me he was to depart in four or five Days for *Malabar*, and that if I would ſatisfy him, he would touch at *Java*, and land me there.

We were not long agreeing upon Terms, and I reſted as contented as my Reflections upon my Wife's Diſtreſs would permit me, I agreed alſo with the Purchaſer of *Hormunka*, for an hundred and ten Dollars for her Ranſom, and propoſed to leave *Malack* with his Miſtreſs; for I judged that it would be Death to both, to part them again.

I thought

I thought every Day a Year till I was upon my Voyage, and gave the Maſter of the Veſſel no Reſt, by my ſpurring on his Preparations; till on the fifth Night, he gave me poſitive Aſſurance of ſailing the next Morning, if Wind and Weather permitted. I went to Bed early, in Order to my being on Board by Peep of Day, the Veſſel lying in a little Cove cloſe to the Shore; but about Midnight, was awakened by a violent Shock of the Houſe I was in, which I took for the Shock of an Earthquake, it was ſo forcible; nor was I well rouzed, before I was convinced that it could only be Wind, for it now raged with ſuch Impetuoſity, that I was compelled to riſe for my own Security, being each Moment apprehenſive of being buried in the Ruins of the Building.

I ſought the Street, where many more were collected, to avoid the like impending Danger; but the Coverings of the Houſes, Branches from the Trees, and the Spray

of

of the Sea fell around, and over us ſo thick, that we were in no leſs Danger abroad, than within Doors. In this melancholy Situation, did my Time paſs till Morning, when the Storm was ſo far from abating, that it had rather increaſed, and lay full in upon the Shore; ſo that to my inexpreſſible Grief, I was but too well convinced that it was no ſailing Weather for me.

The Conflict of my Spirits, on that Occaſion, was ſo tumultuous, that I could ſcarce refrain from arraigning the Methods of Providence. Surely, ſaid I, this Tempeſt is ſtirred meerly on my Account, to put a Bar to my Felicity, and daſh all future Proſpect of ever communicating with my dear Wife again. What have I been guilty of, that ſhould have drawn down this Vengeance on my Head? I am the only Perſon anxious for departing, and I am not to quit the Shore. I began to wiſh that we had ſailed the foregoing Day; for then, ſaid I, by this Time I had been paſt

Senſation of theſe intolerable Reflections; I had ſunk, andbeen loſt to Sorrow; I had then been at eternal Reſt; but now, ſhall from this Moment, compute the Æra of my future Miſeries.

I grew ſo raving at Length, that I was paſt reſtraining my Paſſions, by any Reaſon that I could bring to my Aſſiſtance; I would call over my Wife's Name, forty Times together, and, in my Delirium had certainly caſt myſelf into the Sea, had I not been prevented; when ſome of the People, having Compaſſion on me, put me to Bed, and taking proper Means by Bleeding, and otherwiſe, recovered me to my right Mind again; but it was not till the third Day, when the firſt Thing that I can ſay I was fully ſenſible of, was, the Wind ſtill roaring, though not with its former Fury; I then enquired after my Ship, and whether it was ſailed; when I was informed, though very tenderly, that it having received Damage by the Winds,

would

would want ſome Repairs, before it could poſſibly be put to Sea.

It ſeemed ſome Comfort however, that ſhe was not ſailed without me; but ſo much Time had lapſed ſince my Wife had left me, that I was under a thouſand Perplexities, leſt I ſhould never more meet with her; tho' I was determined to purſue the Trace of her, till Nature ſhould be exhauſted, but I would recover her again, if poſſible.

The next Morning, as I lay muſing in Bed before Day-break, I heard the firing of ſeveral Guns, which continuing till it was Light, I looked from my Window, which fronted the Sea, where I conjectured, that I ſaw ſomething blackiſh at a vaſt Diſtance; but could not diſcover what it was; till preſently, I ſaw a Flaſh, and ſoon heard another Gun, which ſatisfied me that it was a Ship in Diſtreſs, and that, by the Flaſh ariſing from thence, they muſt have been

Signal Guns that I had before heard. I had undergone too many Hardſhips myſelf, not to compaſſionate others in like Circumſtances; ſo that I ſcarce ſtayed to dreſs myſelf, before I had raiſed the Family where I lodged, and ſeveral of my Neighbours; repreſenting to them what I had ſeen, and heard, and that I was well aſſured it was ſome Veſſel, which perhaps was ſinking, without immediate Relief.

The Wind being now much abated, though there was ſtill a ſwelling Sea, we all ran to the Shore; when the Ship either having drove nearer to us, or the Day having brightened more than when I firſt diſcovered it, we plainly diſcerned it to be a large Veſſel, without the leaſt Stump, to all Appearance, ſhewing itſelf above Deck. I begged the People of the Country to ſend ſome Boats to its Aſſiſtance, but they were afraid to venture out ſo far, though the Sea was not very hazardous; till I proffered myſelf to the Service, condemning the

the Uncharitableneſs of thoſe, who would run no Riſque to ſave their Fellow-Creatures; upon this, two or three offering to go with me, we had preſently Boats enough to follow us; for then few were willing to ſtay behind.

We put forward with two large Fiſhing Boats, manned with ſix Men each, puſhing with all our Might towards the diſtreſſed Barque, which the nearer we approached to, looked but the more like a Wreck. The poor Souls on Board, were all upon the Watch, and making Signals to us to come on. She was ſo deep in the Water, when we came within Diſtance of obſerving her, that ſtretching with all our Force, we were afraid ſhe would have ſunk outright, before we could have reached her.

It is impoſſible for any Man, who has not before laboured under the ſame Circumſtances with myſelf, to form any, the leaſt Idea of the Agitation of my Mind,

at the Sight of my Wife, on the Side of the ſinking Ship; my Faculties, both for Speech and Action, were under ſuch an immediate Stupefaction, that had the Veſſel that Moment ſunk in my Reach, I am ſatisfied I could not have extended an Hand, to have ſaved her from drowning; but ſhe obſerving me in that Condition, and calling to me for Help; that, forcing a Flood of Tears from my Eyes, gave Vent to my ſtifled Paſſion, and rendered me capable of aſſiſting her.

I gave her my Hand, took her into my Boat, (which was very near as high above Water as the Ship) and kiſſed her; then aſking her what was become of Captain *Ruyter?* She told me, that on Sight of me in the Boat, he was run between Decks (where ſhe was ſure he muſt be to his Middle in Water) vowing, that he choſe rather to periſh with the Ship, than to confront me. I aſking her, What ſhe had in her Bundle under her Arm? She told me,

me, my Treaſure, which I had left on Board; for that it had lain neglected, till ſhe ſaw the Boats coming; but that then ſhe ſeized it, being in Hopes of ſaving it with herſelf.

I could not ſuffer the Captain to periſh, or farther diſtreſs a bruiſed Reed; ſo that having fixed my Wife in Safety, I ſtept over the Gunnel, and called Captain *Ruyter*, aſſuring him, that I remained his Friend, and the more ſo, being informed of his Remorſe for the late inconſiderate Action. The Captain demanded, Whether I could forgive him? I replied, that I could, and did, now I was in Poſſeſſion of my Wife again. He replied, that I was then a better Chriſtian than himſelf, who ſcarce could have done the like; then aſcending the Deck, I gave him my Hand, and he begged my Pardon.

I enquired into the State of his Ship, which he replied was ſinking, meerly for

Want of Hands to ſupply the Pump; for that his Men were ſo fatigued with Labour, Night and Day, that they could no longer raiſe the Handle. I replied, that if there was but a Poſſibility of bringing her to Land, we would tend her with the Boats, and that our freſh Hands ſhould beſtir themſelves at the Pump; this, he imagining not to be impracticable, I ſet the Example myſelf, and encouraging the new Men to aſſiſt, we ſoon lowered the Water, and by this Time, ſeveral other Boats arriving, we ſo drained her, that not having much above a League to Land, and the Wind favouring, before Evening we had ſecured her out of Danger.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIX.

La Bruce *cut to the Heart. Gives Account of the Captain's Behaviour. Reflections on the Right to make Slaves. Recover* Hormunka. *Sail to* Malabar. *Meet a Kinsman of* La Bruce's. *Gains an Account of her Family.*

FINDING myself at Leisure once more, to solace with my loving Wife, I enquired, How she had fared in my Absence? She told me, that upon the Captain's Return to the Ship, it was visible that somewhat had very much chagrined him. That she did not then imagine, but that he was to have gone off again, till hearing him give Orders for Sailing, she, in a Surprize, demanded, Where he had left me? He replied, on Shore. She insisting that the Boat might be sent for me; he sharply replied, that he knew of no Business I had there, and that, as it was without his Know-

ledge I went thither, I might get off again as I could.

In vain, ſhe ſaid, were all her Cries and Intreaties, he was wholly regardleſs of them, and kept on his Way. I told her, I hoped that he had offered no Inſult or Abuſe to her; ſhe anſwered, no; but ſo far from it, that whenever ſhe could bridle her Indignation ſufficiently to talk, or behave calmly to him; he, on his Part, acted with the ſtricteſt Honour and Complaiſance to her; but, ſaid ſhe, the Tempeſt had no ſooner fallen on us, and brought our main Maſt by the Board, beaten in the Head of the Cabin, and torn our Cordage to Shatters, than he deſired my Prayers for him, and the Preſervation of the Veſſel; confeſſing, that he had been too raſh in what he had done, and in leaving you behind him.

The Storm, ſhe told me, nothing abating, the next Day, they perceived the Water

Water to riſe very faſt in the Hold; when, being fearful of ſinking, he came into the Cabin to her; "O, ſays he, this is all come upon us for my Sake! Wretch that I am! I betrayed the helpleſs *Hormunka* to Shore, and what is worſe, have ſold her to Slavery; and now is Vengeance up with me and will ſoon overtake me; Then, what will my ill-gotten Gain profit me!" This, ſhe told me, was the firſt Word ſhe had heard of *Hormunka*'s Servitude. She ſaid, that ſhe had had too many Thoughts of me in her Mind, and her own Safety, to give her Time for Invectives againſt him, which otherwiſe ſhe ſhould not have ſpared, for that expecting the Ship to ſink every Hour, ſhe had occupied herſelf as ſhe thought moſt prudent, in Preparation for the terrible Event.

The next Day, I waited on the Captain at his Lodgings, taking *Malack*, *Hormunka*, and the Purchaſer with me. The Captain turned as pale as a Clout at our Entrance,

Entrance, when I aſſured him, I came to argue the Caſe of his Sale of the poor Woman, in a friendly Manner with him; deſiring, that whatever I ſhould ſay, might be received as ſuch. "Captain, ſaid I, this Woman you are ſenſible is a Perſon contracted to my Friend, and Servant, *Malack*; and I ſhould have eſteemed it an Act of Benevolence in you, as you could not but be apprized how much I intereſted myſelf in her Welfare, if you had informed me of any Demand you had upon her, that I might have diſcharged it; for you well knew, that ſhe was unable; when, if I would have made you no Satisfaction, it would then have been ſoon enough to have ſold her for her Keeping."

The Captain, who ſince his Eſcape, had taken ſomewhat more Heart than he had in his Danger, replied; that the Woman was his Property, he had made her his Prize, and had an Authority to diſpoſe of her as he ſaw fit. I anſwered him, that I came

came not now to prove the Legality of his Proceedings, ſuppoſing him to be a Man of no Conſcience; but I would aſk him, as a Man and Chriſtian, whether he could imagine, that our Maker had ſubjected the Life and Being of one Part of his Creatures to the Will and Caprice of others, of the ſame Rank? He replied, that he was no Divine, but that it was what was daily done, and he ſaw no Harm in it; every Man was to take all Advantages that he could to make his Fortune. I admitted it to be ſo done; but that the Frequency of ill Actions would no Ways leſſen their Virulence, tho' it might in ſome Meaſure countenance their Perpetration; and I would further agree, that Advantages of making ones Fortune might be purſued; but ſuch only as were juſtifiable, and ſuch where we could caſt no Odium upon our Neighbour, for exerciſing upon us; but as the Caſe ſtood, I told him, that himſelf had been an Evidence of the Exceſs of Joy which had accompanied the Meeting

ing of theſe two Perſons; therefore could be no Stranger to the miſerable Condition each muſt have been reduced to, upon their Separation; and begged him to reflect what would have been his own Concern, had any Man taken the ſame Advantages over him, by a private, or forcible Detainer of his Wife from him for ever.

The Captain replied, that all he had to ſay was, that he took her up at Sea, where ſhe would have periſhed without him, and thought therefore, ſhe was fairly his own. "Then, Captain, ſaid I, if you admit that, for Juſtice, I hope the Rule may fairly hold in all Caſes alike. I took you up Yeſterday, where you would have periſhed without me, and muſt therefore, from your own Argument, inſiſt upon your being my Property; but I am willing to ranſom you for the Price of the Woman you have injuriouſly diſpoſed of."

The

The Captain, not being able to ſtand it out any longer, the Caſe being too clearly brought Home to himſelf, began to confeſs, that he now thought he had done a wrong Thing; but did not conſider it in that Light, at the Time of Sale.

The Purchaſer, who had ſtood by paſſive till now, demanding then his Money from the Captain, and he would free her; *Ruyter* being a *Dutchman*, could not well tell what to ſay to it, (for his Countrymen ſeldom part with the ready, but for ſome gainful Bargain) till perceiving himſelf again preſſed by my urging his Want of Right to it (for I went ſo far as to inſiſt, that he, who would for his own private Gain deſtroy my natural Liberty, would no leſs ſcruple to cut my Throat for the like Advantage, was he but ſure of eſcaping;) this, and the Fear of my perſiſting in it to the laſt, brought him to a Return of the Money, and we procured her Diſcharge; after which, I generouſly made the

the Captain a Preſent of a Pearl, of about twenty Pounds Value, in Lieu of the Charge and Trouble he had been at, in taking and keeping *Hormunka*, which appeaſing him, made all up again.

Ruyter had put his Ship upon the Repair, and was in Hopes of ſailing in about ſix Weeks; but I having promiſed my Wife never to board him again, we took Paſſage in the Ship I had agreed for before the Storm, ſhe being now refitted; and in her, we arrived in due Time at *Malabar*, where we tarried till ſome *European* Veſſel ſhould arrive, to carry us toward *England*.

Whilſt we were waiting here, as my Wife and I were walking about the Town one Day, we met with a near Relation of hers, whom ſhe had not ſeen for many Years. He had touched there with a Ship juſt arrived from *France*, and was proceeding

ing to one of the *French* Settlements on the Coaſt, to reſide there. She immediately recollected him, before ſhe informed me who he was; but then directly, telling me that he was her near Kinſman, and repeating his Name to me, I turned about, and called him back, demanding (after ſome ſhort Compliment) whether he knew that Lady? He looking earneſtly at her, replied, no; he could not ſay that he did; till ſhe ſmiling, and beginning to ſpeak to him in *French*; Madam *La Bruce*, ſaid he, or I am very much miſtaken. Then ſhe calling him by his Name, they renewed their former Acquaintance.

We kept a Correſpondence and Intimacy together, during his Stay, which was about ten Days (ourſelves being confined almoſt three Months there;) and had frequent Conferences, about her Relations in *France*; in ſome of which, he informed her of the Death of her Father, who, by the

the Deceaſe of her Uncle in the Wars, where he was a General Officer, had come into all his vaſt Fortune, which her Father had left, between her, her Siſter, and her Mother; that her Siſter dying the laſt Summer, had left all that ſhe had to her Mother, who was living when he left *France*, but in a very declining State of Health. He by all Means adviſed her therefore, to make *Paris* in her Way to *England*; for that when her Mother ſhould know her to be living, ſhe would undoubtedly make her Heir to all ſhe had; which, if once in other Hands, (her Mother already ſuſpecting her to be dead) would be a difficult Matter to recover again.

I eſteemed it to be a moſt happy Event for us, to have met with this Relation of my Wife's, and we were not long reſolving to make *Paris* our firſt Stage; when luckily for us, the firſt Ship that arrived,

arrived, bound to *Europe*, was a *French* Merchant-man, with the Captain of whom we agreed, and in due Time set Sail.

CHAP.

CHAP. XX.

Arrive at Breſt. *Viſit* La Bruce's *Mother. She dies. Leaves her her Riches. Sail for* England. *Seek the Author's Mother in* Suffolk. *Find her in the Park. Faints at Sight of her Son. Introduces* La Bruce *to her. Account of the Author's Children, and of* Malack.

WE might now be ſaid to travel with ſomewhat of a Family, for *Malack* and *Hormunka* were both upon our Hands, and infinitely ſerviceable to us. We had a delightful Voyage to *Breſt*, where we landed, and after a few Days Refreſhment, went Poſt to *Paris*, and there hiring private Lodging, we ſoon put ourſelves in Condition of appearing in Publick.

We paid our firſt Viſit to Madam *La Bruce*; but tho' my Wife remembered her per-

perfectly well, it was with no ſmall Difficulty that ſhe recollected my Wife; which I imputed to her Diſorder, having reduced and weakened not only her Bodily Vigour, but alſo her Intellectuals; for ſhe had not ſtirred out of her Room for above twelve Months before. At length, calling her Servant, who had lived moſt of her Days in the Family, and had brought up my Wife from her Infancy, to aſſiſt her Judgment, ſhe no ſooner entered the Room, but ſtarting back, "Who do I ſee! ſaid "ſhe, my young Miſtreſs?" Then running to my Wife, ſhe begged to ſalute her, it not being the firſt Time ſhe had ſo done, ſhe ſaid, by thouſands.

"*Doris*, ſaid the old Lady, pray ex-"mine well, are you ſure that Lady is "my *Iſabalia?*" "Sure, Madam, ſaid *Do-*"*ris*, as ſure as if ſhe was my own Child." "I thought, replied the old Lady, that "ſhe might be like her. I would riſe my "Dear, added ſhe, if I could, but come

"kiſs

" kiſs me; and pray, who is that Gentle-
" man?" "My Huſband, ſaid my Wife."
" And is he really a good one? Said the
" Mother." " My Wife then replied,
" that it was an improper Seaſon for Ex-
" planations upon that Head, in my own
" Preſence, only rejoined, that I had freed
" her twice from Captivity, had expoſed
" my own Life for the Sake of her, and
" that ſhe had found far more of Joy
" and Comfort in Life, ſince ſhe had
" been my Wife, than ſhe had either be-
" fore ſuſpected, or could have believed
" conſiſtent with the Marriage State."
" Then, ſaid the old Lady, he ſhall be my
" Son indeed; deſiring me to come for-
" ward, and ſalute her."

She then told us, that ſhe had given over all Expectations of her Daughter's Life, and having quitted all Thoughts of the World, ſhe only waited her Diſſolution; but hoped we might have many Years Enjoyment of each other; and as her

her Time could be but ſhort, ſhe would not have us leave her Houſe any more, where, at her Death, we ſhould find what would make us very happy. She then ordered her Maid to bring her Will out of her Cabinet; which having taken in her Hand, "Daughter, ſaid ſhe, imagining "you to be dead, I had diſpoſed of all "my Effects, to diſtant Relations, ſave "one thouſand Louis d'Ors, which I have "given to *Doris*; but I will now burn "this Inſtrument, when no one can claim "a Sous but yourſelf; only remember "this, that my Legacy to *Doris* muſt "ſtill be paid, with ſuch Addition as your "own Generoſity ſhall make to it; but "I will have no Diminution of my Do-"nation, upon any Account." This we both promiſed ſhould be performed; and now I looked upon it that I ſhould ſettle for the Remainder of my Life moſt agreeably.

We

We had not been at her Mother's more than ſix Weeks, before ſhe died; nor ſtayed we longer in *Paris* (after the Funeral than to adjuſt our Affairs, and procure proper Remittances to *England*; when embarking at *Calais*, we arrived ſafe at *Dover*.

Our firſt Tour, after touching at *London* for a few Days, was to *Norfolk*, to find my Mother (if living) for I doubted not but that when ſhe ſhould have heard of my Misfortune, ſhe would have retired thither again, amongſt her former Acquaintance; and being under ſuch ſtrong Pre-poſſeſſion of this, I never once enquired for her in Town; but upon our Arrival in the Country, no one had ſeen her there, ſince ſhe left the Place with me: So that having no further Buſineſs there, after this Anſwer, we returned to *London*, and found her living in the very ſame Houſe at *Whitehall*, which ſhe occupied at my Departure; where the Servant, upon Enquiry,

Enquiry, informed us, that she was taking her Afternoon's Walk in the Park.

I told my Wife that we would go and meet her there, for I longed to know whether she remembered me or not; so we looked carefully all the Way up the *Mall*, for I had such a strong Impression of her in my Mind, that I judged it would be impossible for me to mistake her; but could not see any one like her. I insisted, that we would go quite round, and if we could not meet her, we would return to her House again.

We went cross the Top of the Park, and down the *Bird-cage-Walk*, but saw nothing of her; till, towards the Bottom of it, I espied her coming to meet us. My Heart fluttered like a Bird in a Cage, at Sight of her; but having purposed to pass full in her Veiw, that she might of her own Accord recollect me; I seemed on her Approach, all secured with my Wife,

talking and laughing pretty loud, when I obſerved her to faſten her Eyes upon me, turn pale, but paſs me. Said I to my Wife, that dear Woman does not know me; then inſtantly turning to go after her, I beheld her fallen flat upon the Ground.

I was moſt ſurpriſingly aſtoniſhed, and ſo was my Wife, when both running to her, we endeavoured to raiſe her up; but ſhe had no more Strength or Motion than a dead Corpſe. We removed her however to the Graſs, and ſeveral Perſons inſtantly coming up, I ſent for a Chair, and a Surgeon; but not the leaſt Tokens of Life appeared in her. We had opened a Vein in leſs than ten Minutes, when ſhe bleeding freely, the Operator pronounced that there was no Danger; but believed, the Lady had received an Injury by ſome Fright, or Surprize; and that ſhe would ſoon recover. He uſed ſeveral Means common in ſuch Caſes, and in leſs than

Half

Half an Hour ſhe was able to ſit up in the Chair, and be conveyed Home.

The Surgeon and I had conferred together before ſhe revived, and I informing him of the Cauſe of her Surprize, he deſired me not to be ſeen by her, till ſhe was at her own Houſe; for that the Sight of me, too ſoon after the Recall of her Spirits, might cauſe a Relapſe; but if I would give him Leave, he would wait upon her Home, where ſhe would naturally diſcloſe the Occaſion of her Diſorder to him, and he would then prepare her Mind for my Reception, by gentle Information of my being alive, and that I was attending to pay my Duty to her. He adviſed me by all Means to leave my Wife at his Houſe, till I had cautiouſly revealed my Marriage, leſt the Knowledge of that alſo arriving too ſuddenly, might have an ill Effect.

Being thus inſtructed, it was about half an Hour after, that I knocked at the

Door, when the Surgeon, who had agreed not to leave her till he ſhould ſee me, gave her Hopes that I was come: But the Interview between us was too affecting to bear a Deſcription, nor can be other than conceived, by Hearts mollified to an Exceſs of filial and maternal Tenderneſs, for which Reaſon, I ſhall omit it here.

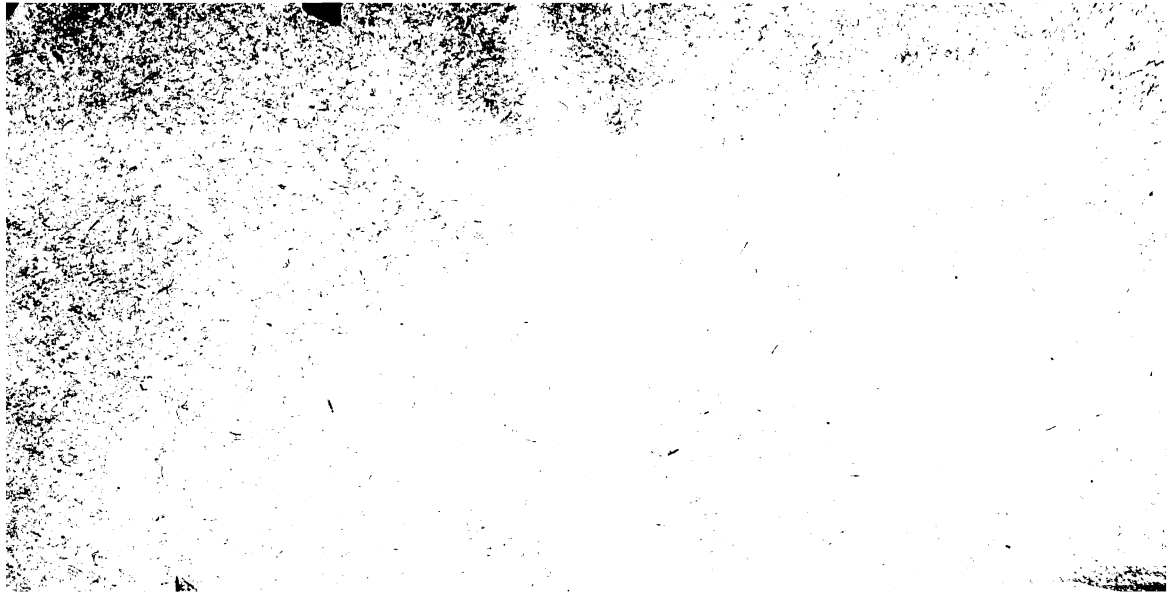
Our firſt Emotions ſubſiding by Degrees, we were not long ſettling all other Matters on a proper Footing; for ſhe enquiring, what Lady I had with me in the Park? I replied, my Wife, begging Leave for her Introduction, as the moſt virtuous and amiable Woman in the Creation. She told me, as my Happineſs could not but augment her Joy, ſhe ſhould have equal Intereſt in her with myſelf, and was all Impatience till ſhe ſaw her. I had all along promiſed myſelf the ſublimeſt Satisfaction, in preſenting my Wife to her myſelf, and had propoſed to have fetched her from the Surgeon's, ſo ſoon as her Admiſſion

was

was conſented to by my Mother; but Nature now wrought ſo forcibly in me, that I would no Ways leave my Mother, for the Proſpect of any other Gratification; ſo was obliged to apply to my Friend the Surgeon, and depute him to that Office. My Mother gave her ſo loving a Reception, that, if it was poſſible, the Tenderneſs of her Expreſſions for her, exceeded even them for myſelf; and ſhe paid that Duty and Regard to my Mother, that they became enamoured of each other.

I ſhall not longer tire my Reader's Patience with the trifling Occurrences of my Life, than to inform him, that my Mother lived ſeveral Years afterwards, a true Parent to us both; and that my Wife and ſelf are ſtill living, with five fine Children, the Produce of our Loves, whom we hope to leave our Repreſentatives.

Ma-

Malack and his Wife too, (for they are both now chriſtened, and married) are raiſing a Progeny, to be tranſplanted amongſt the future Settlements of my Family.

The End of the Second Volume.